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WOMEN TO WATCH FOR

YOUNGEST OLSEN SISTER AMONG RISING FILM STARS (page 24)



Weekend, December 23-25, 2011 www.metronews.ca



News worth sharing

More donating needed **○** Charity able to help more than 5,000 families in need **○** Another 5,500 are on waiting list The Caring and Sharing Exchange sent out boxes and boxes of food for Christmas dinners Thursday evening, but the charity still needs donations or it will be forced to turn families away. "This is actually organized chaos," said executive director Marilyn Matheson, as volunteers passed around food and packed

and up hampers. "We have a method of doing it and everyone pitches in and gets everything

The charity offers some families and individuals food hampers, but more recipients usually get vouchers for Giant Tiger that they can spend on food and gifts. "If we get the donations in over the holidays we will still send the vouchers because these families still need assistance." Matheson said. As of Thursday morning, 5,500 of the 10,700 people who applied for assistance were still on the waiting list.

"Last year we pulled through at the last minute, but this year I think everybody is hurting," said Matheson. "We don't know what's going on in the economy so they're holding onto their money, and we can't blame them." • IESSICA SMITH



Christmas thief stopped in his tracks

• Teen, armed with a knife, allegedly tried to steal mall Santa photo cash Didn't get far before being tackled to the ground {page 2} Canada

Wildfires. tornados and devastating floods

● Environment Canada lists the top 10 weather events of 2011 {page 15}

Expectations are low for Canada's only NBA team

NBC Sports predicts the Toronto Raptors will finish in last place (page 34)

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A driver has a terrifying near-miss with a jackknifing transport truck on a Russian highway. Watch at metronews.ca/ video



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Illegal workers told to leave Canada this weekend

Illegal workers arrested in Ottawa and Gatineau shopping malls on Monday were declared inadmissible to Canada on Thursday and must leave Canada on the weekend, the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB) said.

Robert Gervais, IRB spokesperson, said full results of Thursday's detention review would be available Friday and he could disclose information on only 22 of them.

He said most of the workers had arrived in Canada on tourist visas within the past three or four weeks, but had been working illegally at health and beauty kiosks.

Of the 22, 10 women and 11 men were from Israel and were 20 to 36 years old. One woman, who was working illegally and living without status in Canada, was ordered deported. The others were here legally as tourists. One man from France was also working illegally. He and 20 Israelis were given exclusion orders.

"An exclusion order ... means that these individuals cannot come back to Canada for the next year," Gervais said. "They all indicated that they want to leave Canada."

Those given exclusion orders must present themselves to an immigration officer within the next three days and arrange to leave the country, Gervais said. • JOE LOFARO



Oh, you'd better not pout, you'd better not steal ...

◆ Thief not only tried to steal mall Santa photo cash, but he was also armed with a knife: Police ◆ Santa, elves were uninjured



A thief armed with a knife shoved a couple of elves and stole money from the Santa Claus display at Merivale Mall on Wednesday, but he didn't get very far before he was tackled to the ground.

The mall's North Pole display — a shiny blue igloo adorned with penguins and snow — is in the middle of a court surrounded by stores and shoppers.

"Î heard a loud noise

and then I heard, 'Get him! Get him!'" said a salesperson who did not want to be identified, because staff are not supposed to speak with reporters while on the job.

Then the clerk saw a young man run through the crowd, past several stores, until a large man stopped him in his tracks.

"He stops, tackles him

against the wall," the clerk said. "Like a hockey tack-le."

Mall marketing co-ordinator Ricki Armitage said a teen was hanging around the display and saw an

"He's definitely on the naughty list."

opening when one of Santa's elves picked up a box containing more than \$600 and was about to take money from a customer.

"Some young kid pushed aside the girls that work there, grabbed the cash box, jumped over the rope and took off down the mall," Armitage said. "One of the people who was waiting in line, who was a parent, and a guy who works at Fido managed to tackle him and

take him down. They held him there until security guards arrived."

Police charged Joshua Daviau, 18, with theft and possession of a weapon that is dangerous to the public, police spokesperson Cont. Marc Soucy said.

The Santa and elves working at the mall on Thursday said they weren't on shift Wednesday when the incident occurred, but had been told by their coworkers that the parent who intervened was an offduty police officer. Metro was not able to contact the man to confirm it.





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Chilling out for sick kids at CHEO



Organizers of winter-swim fundraiser are looking to beat last year's goal of \$20,000

Ice-water frolic is expanding to Vancouver this year



More than 200 people are expected to hurl themselves into the frigid waters of the Ottawa River Jan. 1 in their bikinis and swimming trunks in support of sick kids fighting for their lives at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CĤEO).

The second annual ears Great Canadian Sears Chill will take place at Britannia Beach following last year's inaugural event in Ottawa and Toronto.

All funds raised will support pediatric cancer research and treatment in each region's hospitals

spokesperson for the charity, said the idea behind jumping into frigid waters is that it lets people start off fresh for the new year.

"People find that it's a great way to swath off last year," said Forbes, who added that it's not as scary as most people think. "It's scary to jump into freezing water, it's scary to give your money away. But you know what's really scary? That a kid can have can-

Participants are encouraged to raise funds individually or with a group when they register.

Forbes said many people who participate in the event are those who have been affected by cancer in some way and want to be

a hero for someone else.

Some just make a quick in-and-out splash in the water, while others like to take a leisurely dip of up to 10 minutes.

'There are people who like to frolic around in the water so they'll stay in and have a nice, little cool bath and chill off," she said.

Forbes recommends first-timers bring a towel, rubber shoes and a friend to hand them their dry clothes.

A St. John's Ambulance will be on site as a precaution.

Registration is available now through Jan. 1 through thechill.ca or by 1-855-93-CHILL

Fundraiser offers chance to skate with Spezza

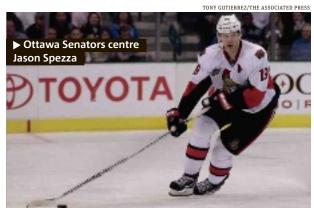
Want to skate with Ottawa Senator Jason Spezza?

Anyone who helps raise more than \$1,000 at the Energizer Ottawa Night Skate next week will have a shot at meeting the Sens' centreman and skating with him at Scotiabank Place.

Spezza is spearheading a Sens Foundation project to build 19 permanent outdoor rinks for kids in targeted neighbourhoods in eastern Ontario and western Quebec. The skate night will help raise money toward that goal.

"We want to make sure there is excellent recreation space for kids who might not have a chance to participate in organized sport right in their neighbourhood," said Sens Foundation president Danielle Robinson. "This way they can walk out the door and get involved."

Kids with access to after-



school activities tend to do better in school and in life in general, Robinson said, adding that the foundation will go beyond construction of rinks and will help establish sports instruction at the facilities.

Foundation officials are crossing their fingers for cold weather and a frozen canal by Dec. 27, when the skate night is to take place. But even if the unseasonable warmth continues,

plans are afoot to hold the event at the new Rink of Dreams at Ottawa City Hall. If everything goes according to plan, participants will do five-kilometre skate on the canal Dec. 27.

Registering for the skate is \$20 for adults and \$15 for kids. People who register Thursday will get tickets to the Sens Skills Competition at Scotiabank Place on Dec. 28. SEAN MCKIBBON

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December 28, 2011

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Labour group has Dewar's back

Ottawa and District Labour Council throw weight behind Ottawa Centre MP's pursuit of NDP leadership

The Ottawa and District Labour Council (ODLC) publicly endorsed Ottawa-Centre NDP MP Paul Dewar's bid to become leader of the federal New Democratic Party.

"Paul is a true working man and incredibly straight-forward. What you see is what you get with Paul," said Sean McKenny, president of the ODLC, in a news release. McKenny added Dewar's contributions to working families in Ottawa have been enormous.

The council — one of the country's largest — made the unanimous decision after a general membership meeting held Wednesday evening. The ODLC represents 90 union locals with a combined membership of 50,000 workers.

The release said Dewar actively participated in ODLC activities as a delegate representing the Ottawa Carleton Elementary Teachers' Federation and after being elected as NDP MP for Ottawa Centre.

"We fundamentally believe that Paul Dewar is the best candidate to lead Canada's New Democrats," said McKenny.

● IOE LOFARO



Syria flash mob intrigues shoppers

About 20 Syrian Canadians made dozens of frenzied Christmas shoppers in the Rideau Centre food court pause in their tracks Thursday when they stood frozen for five minutes, depicting violence against Syrian protesters.





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Cops hunt robbers

Police looking for gun-toting mall bandit and two accomplices



Police are asking for the public's help identifying the men in this photo.

A gun-toting robber and his two accomplices held up a store last week at St. Laurent Shopping Centre. Now police are looking for them and want the public's

Police said the incident happened at about 4:40 p.m. Dec. 15. The men approached an employee demanding money, but fled the scene empty-handed in a cab.

There were no injuries in the incident, police said.

The first suspect is described as black, 18 to 22 years old, six feet tall with a thin build and dark hair, wearing a black hoodie, black puffy vest, jeans, ball cap and a handgun in his waistband.

The second suspect is de-

scribed as black, 18 to 22 years old, six feet tall with dark hair, wearing a grey hoodie and black puffy vest.

The third suspect is described as black, 18 to 22 years old, wearing a navy blue New York Yankees jacket.

Anyone with information about this robbery is asked to contact the Ottawa Police Service.

METRO



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of the border will be less of a hassle as the U.S. and Canadian government phase out the "duplicate screening" of baggage over the next three years,

tem, air travellers who change planes in the U.S.



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Transferring flights south MPs announced Thursday.

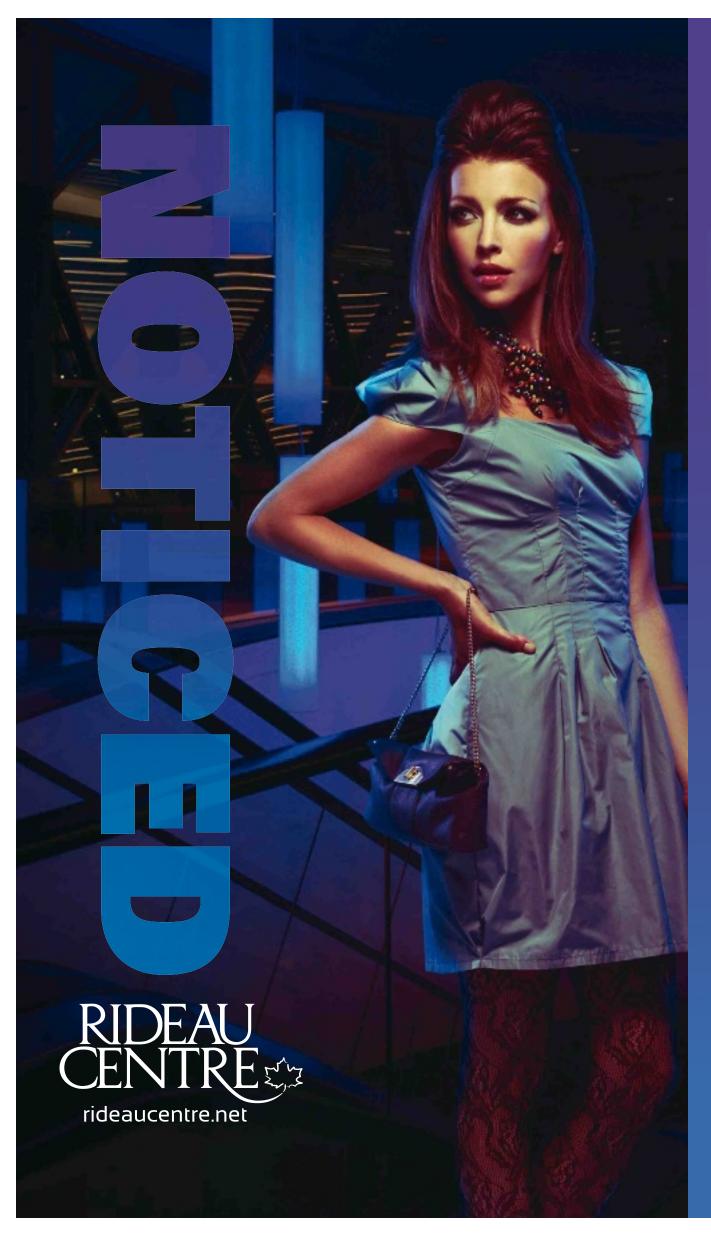
Under the current syshave to pick up their bags

400,000 About 400,000 Canadians have NEXUS cards: **Poilievre**

and bring them to a security checkpoint for a second screening, then recheck them. But the new border plan was announced by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama earlier this month.

"It will mean you can book tighter connections through U.S. cities ... and (have) more certainty that your bags will be waiting for you at your final destination," said Nepean-Carleton MP Pierre Poilievre.

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FORMER CABINET MINISTER

PMO shrugs off Guergis' defamation lawsuit

There is a report that former member of Parliament Helena Guergis is suing Prime Minister Stephen Harper and a host of others for defamation.

The CBC is reporting the lawsuit stems from Guergis being forced out of cabinet and the Conservative caucus in April 2010 over allegations against her and her hus-

band, former MP Rahim Jaffer.

The Conservative Party of Canada is also included in the lawsuit.

The CBC report says a

statement of claim filed by Guergis contends that unproven allegations of fraud and prostitution were defamatory and damaged her reputation.

A police investigation requested by the government found no evidence of wrongdoing and there were never any charges.

The allegations in the statement of claim have not been proven in court and no statement of defence has been filed, but the prime minister's office calls the allegations groundless.

"This latest action is ridiculous. The voters have made their minds up on Helena Guergis," said PMO spokesman Carl Vallee in an email to The Canadian Press.

Guergis ran as an Independent in the May election, but was beaten by Conservative Kellie Leitch. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Twice the reward for thief a-leaping

- **○** Bankers offer \$20K for information leading to arrest
- Investigators worried by robber's escalation in tactics



A reward has been doubled for the so-called "Vaulter Bandit" after he physically attacked a bank employee in a robbery attempt this

month.

The bandit, who has been known to jump over counters while committing bank robberies, is being sought in 17 cases in recent years.

He has committed robberies in Hamilton, York Region, Ottawa and Cal-

In the past year, he has begun what police refer to as "takeover" robberies, in which he accosts a bank employee while he or she is opening the bank for "This is a personal crime. it's not an economic crime."

BILL CRATE, HEAD OF THE CANADIAN BANKERS' ASSOCIATION

He was successful in this method in Ottawa earlier this year, but has been foiled in two other attempts.

The latest attempt occurred at 6:45 a.m. on Dec. 14 at a TD Canada Trust branch in Vaughan, Ont. Police say the bandit was in the ATM part of the bank when an employee arrived to open the door.

He jumped at her and knocked her to the ground while he tried to gain access to the bank. However, he fled after another female employee who happened to be inside came to the door and kicked him in the stomach.

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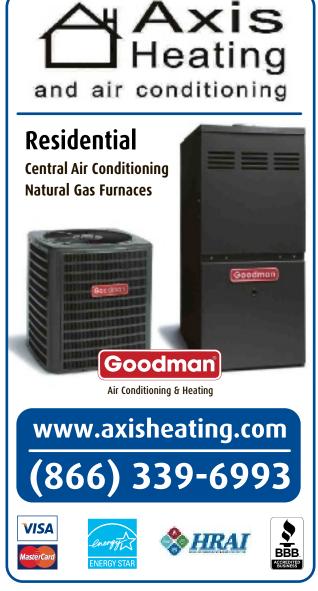


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Layton is Canada's Newsmaker of the Year

▶ Late NDP leader won overwhelming majority of votes in two surveys — one by editors and news directors and another by the public online

John Gilbert Layton wore dozens of different name tags in his decades of public service: activist, guitarist, father and, finally, leader of the official Opposition.

Most knew the NDP leader by another name: Jack.

No other Canadian dominated the headlines like Layton in 2011, making him the clear choice for Newsmaker of the Year by editors and news directors participating in the annual survey of newsrooms across the country by The Canadian Press.

Layton received 90 per cent of the votes — one of the most overwhelming margins in the 65-year history of the CP Newsmaker voting. The next closest was Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who received just five per cent of the vote totals.

Also earning votes were Canada's new female premiers, the protesters at the heart of the Occupy Canada movement, former auditor general Sheila Fraser and the Grande Prairie Composite Warriors football team.

"Jack Layton singlehandedly shaped Canada's political narrative in 2011, from the decimation of the Bloc Québécois, to the marginalization of the Liberal party, to the utter vacuum left on Parliament



Hill by his death," said Brodie Fenlon, senior news editor, The Huffington Post Canada.

"We watched the drama of this scrappy underdog, cane in hand, pulling off an astonishing victory only to be felled months later before he could truly make something of it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cherry a distant second

- Layton claimed half of the online votes cast, with hockey commentator Don Cherry a distant second at 16 per cent. Prime Minister Stephen Harper garnered 10 per cent of the vote, narrowly edging the Occupy Canada protesters at 9.5
- Stratford, Ont., pop sensation Justin Bieber, who made tabloid headlines earlier this year when a fan named him in a paternity suit that she later dropped, rounded out the top five with 3.4 per cent of the vote.

Chretien gets \$200,000 compensation

The Federal Court has ordered the government to pay \$200,000 each to former Liberal prime minister Jean Chretien and his late chief of staff — compensation for some of the legal costs they racked up fighting the findings of an inquiry into the sponsorship scandal.

The lump-sum payments, awarded last week by Judge Francois Lemieux, are the last chapter in a drawn-out court battle Chretien and Jean Pelletier waged against Justice John Gomery and the report he wrote on the scandal in 2005.

Pelletier died in 2009 due to complications from

colon cancer, but his estate continued to pursue the case in court.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's parliamentary secretary said the decision was disappointing, and that most Canadians would find the award "distasteful." The Conservatives have long called on the Liberal party to pay back \$43 million in missing taxpayer funds.

"That's stolen money that should have been repaid, and certainly it's our position that Jean Chretien should repay that \$200,000 to Canadians," said Dean Del Mastro. "It's stolen money, and I don't think Canadians have forgotten about it." THE CANADIAN PRESS

IMPAIRED DRIVING

Excuses that folks make ...

"I'm driving my drunk friends home. I've had less than all of them." That's one of the top excuses police have heard from impaired drivers this month.

The Insurance Corporation of B.C. put together the list to caution people on the best way to ensure a safe trip home from a holiday party.

"Í can't be drunk ...

I'm the designated driver!" won't cut it, and neither will the other excuses police have heard: "I've only had a couple," "I can hold my liquor" and "I was only going two blocks."

ICBC says even a small amount of alcohol can cause impairment, and no matter how close a person is to home, they should think twice about drinking and driving.

The company says CounterAttack roadblocks will be up across the province during the holidays and no excuse will work if a person is driving while impaired.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Spanish lotto win gives tiny town needed boost

• One cash-strapped town has won the world's biggest lottery, raking in a combined \$940M US • The top prize was split between 1,800 ticket holders

A tiny town of 2,000 in cash-strapped Spain found itself richer by \$940 million US on Thursday after scooping the top prize in the country's famed Christmas

Billed as the world's richest, the lottery dishes out some \$3.29 billion to winners across the country.

The top prize — dubbed El Gordo (The Fat One) was split among the holders of tickets bearing the number 58268. The number appeared on 1,800 tickets, giving winners \$522,000 for their \$26 tick-

The state lottery agency

said all 1,800 tickets with that number were sold in the town of Granen, located in the arid and barren northeastern Los Monegros

The news brought the town's residents out onto the street to dance, sing, hug each other and spray sparkling wine all over.

"It's brilliant!" Pilar Azagra, who runs the town's lottery store, told Spanish National Television. She appeared a bit stunned. haven't had time to react, the number came out and then people started flocking to the shop," she said, adding that many in her family had bought tickets.

Azagra said the windfall was more than welcome as several companies in Granen had closed because of the economic crisis forcing many residents to seek employment in neighbouring towns and cities.

Spain is struggling to emerge from a near twoyear recession that has left it with a eurozone-high 21.5 per cent unemployment rate.

Other lotteries have larger individual top prizes but El Gordo is ranked as the world's richest for the total sum paid out.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in pictures

1. TIM IRELAND/PA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THE INCLUDING THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
 CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS . ALIK KEPLICZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



People watch the sunrise at the northern winter solstice celebration at Stonehenge in Wiltshire on Dec. 22.

Darragh O'Neill, 20, shovels snow into the face of his dog Kerry in Louisville, Colo., after a snowstorm cancelled dozens of flights.

In this photo, 92-year-old Bernice Bates (the world's oldest yoga teacher) teaches yoga at Mainlands Retirement Community Center.

> People gather in front of the Palace of Culture and Science to celebrate Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights in Warsaw, Poland. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Christmas lottery aims

Lotto facts

for a share-the-wealth system, rather than a single jackpot, and thousands of numbers yield at least some kind of return.

Since it began in 1812, the Dec. 22 lottery has become a favourite holiday tradition.

Spain holds another big lottery Jan. 6 to mark the Feast of the Epiphany. It is known as El Nino (The Child), in reference to the baby Jesus.

the top prize of Spain's Christmas lottery, known as El Gordo, in the town of Granen, around 300 kilometres from Madrid.







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Wish comes true for girl who met Kate

Dad says 6-year-old's cancer has gone into remission

The shy, bald little girl who charmed Prince William and Kate when they visited Calgary in the summer has received her Christmas wish.

Diamond Marshall's father says she had surgery this week and the biopsies have shown her cancer is in remission, though she still must undergo chemotherapy and a bonemarrow transplant next month.

Diamond's brief meeting with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on a windy July day brought many Canadians to tears.

The six-year-old, who is battling Stage 4 undifferentiated sarcoma, had asked the Children's Wish Foundation for a chance to meet "a real princess."

She not only got to meet Kate, she managed to get in a hug with her idol and present her with flowers.

Diamond will spend Christmas in hospital re-



"This is a wonderful piece of news, especially at this time of year and we will be thinking of Diamond in the coming year."

STATEMENT FROM WILL AND KATE

covering from the surgery, but her dad says they're all OK with that as long as they're together. If all goes well, Diamond will be home for New Year's

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CANCER AWARENESS

Trouble over 'boobie' bracelet

Controversy is stirring at a Catholic school in

Woodstock, Ont., over bracelets supporting breast-cancer awareness.

The bracelets read "I Love Boobies" and a 13year-old student at St. Rita's Catholic School has been put on in-school suspension over them.

Kelly Millson has been urged by his parents to continue wearing them at school, but he says he is not allowed to be in class, in the hallways or anywhere other students are congregating.

But he did decide to take the bracelets off this week so he could go out for recess. School board superintendent Tamara Nugent says the decisions on dress code are made by each school's principal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Bombers strike Baghdad

● Tensions rise in Iraq as attacks, mere days after U.S. forces leave, threaten stability in war-torn country ● Blasts hit 11 neighbourhoods, kill dozens

A wave of 16 bombings ripped across Baghdad Thursday, killing at least 69 people in the worst violence in Iraq for months. The apparently co-ordinated attacks struck days after the last American forces left the country and in the midst of a major government crisis between Shiite and Sunni politicians that has sent sectarian tensions soaring.

The bombings may be linked more to the U.S. withdrawal than the political crisis, but all together, the developments heighten fears of a new round of Shiite-Sunni sectarian bloodshed like the one a few years back that pushed Iraq to the brink of civil war.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility. But the bombings bore all



the hallmarks of al-Qaida's Sunni insurgents. Most appeared to hit Shiite neighbourhoods, although some Sunni areas

were also targeted.

In all, 11 neighbourhoods were hit by either car bombs, roadside blasts or sticky bombs attached

Deadly attack

- The deadliest attack was in the Karrada neighbourhood, where a suicide bomber blew himself up outside the office of a government agency.
- At least 14 blasts went off in the morning and two more in the evening.
- Two police officers at the scene said the bomber was driving an ambulance and told guards that he needed to get to a nearby hospital. After the guards let him through, he drove to the building where he blew himself up, the officers said.

to cars. There was at least one suicide bombing and the blasts went off over several hours.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

France's genocide bill upsets Turkey

French lawmakers easily passed a measure Thursday to make it a crime to deny the mass killings of Armenians in 1915 by Ottoman Turks amounted to genocide. Turkey swiftly retaliated, ordering its ambassador home and halting official contacts, including some military cooperation.

Within hours of the vote on the bill, which would penalize those who deny the genocide, Turkey suspended joint military

Friend or foe?

Turkey, a NATO member, is a strategic ally of France and valued trading partner, and the moves diminish ties at a particularly crucial time. Paris and Ankara are both deeply involved in international issues from the uprising in Syria to Afghanistan.

manoeuvres and restricting French military flights. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Israel drops Gaza flotilla charges

Israel's attorney general has decided not to prosecute Israelis who participated in a Gaza-bound flotilla that was raided a year ago.

The suspects included an Israeli-Arab lawmaker and an Islamist leader.

Nine pro-Palestinian Turkish activists were killed when Israeli naval commandos stormed the Gaza-bound ships. The raid prompted an international outcry. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





15

Canada's top 10 weather stories

Devastating floods and fires lead Environment Canada's list of biggest weather events of 2011

Fires and floods of almost biblical proportions that forced thousands from their homes and cut a destruction swath of through several communities took a heavy toll on Canadians this year, says one of the country's lead climatologists.

While those disasters weren't as deadly as the Japanese tsunami or the violent weather that battered the U.S., they wore down Canadians and cost the country billions, said David Phillips, senior climatologist with Environment Canada, who released his list of the top 10 weather stories of 2011 Thursday.

"We were getting our own fair share of misery, hardship and misfortune from the weather," he said.

"There have been tough years but I think this one, in many ways, has been difficult from an expensive point of view and the extreme aspect of it.'

The floods swamped parts Saskatchewan and Manitoba were "unprecedented on so many fronts," placing them in the top spot,

Weather's top 10

- Historic floods in Saskatchewan and Mani-
- Wildfires at Slave Lake
- Richelieu River floods
- Challenging growing season for farmers
- Tornado in Goderich

Stranded

woman ate

candy bars

A U.S. university student said she had nothing to eat but two candy bars while her car was stuck in the snow for nine days in a re-

leaving her mother's home

when she came to a dirt road near cliffs that divide

the state's high country from the desert. Her car became stuck after she stopped to try to open a

Weinberg told a sheriff's

deputy she put snow in a

Coconino County sheriff's spokesman Gerry Blair said she was driving around with no destination

mote area of Arizona. Twenty-three-year-old Lauren Weinberg was seen

Dec. 11.

Blair said.

Hurricanes in Atlantic region

- Summer a mixed bag of weather
- Arctic sea ice near record
- Groundhog Day blizzard
- Alberta

High winds rip through southern Phillips said. THE CANADIAN PRESS Brazil. Fire



shantytown Favela do Moinho in Sao Paulo. water bottle and placed it on the car so it would melt,

She did not have a heavy coat or blankets. She had a cellphone but the battery was dead.

Two U.S. Forest Service employees found her nine days later. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shantytown blaze

The fire started on Thursday in a vacant building and spread to the shantytown where about 200 homes were destroyed and one person was found dead, according to local media reports.

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File it under bad gift ideas

- Company apologizes for labelling Mein Kampf as a 'perfect present'
- Found in store's politics section

A British bookstore chain has apologized after promoting Adolf Hitler's Mein Kampf as the "perfect present" for Christmas.

Waterstone's issued an apology after several people spotted the anti-Semitic tome at a store in Huddersfield in West Yorkshire with a sales sticker saying the book is "the perfect present" and "essential gift for anyone

seeking to understand one of history's most despicable figures. A shocking read and vital warning for future generations."

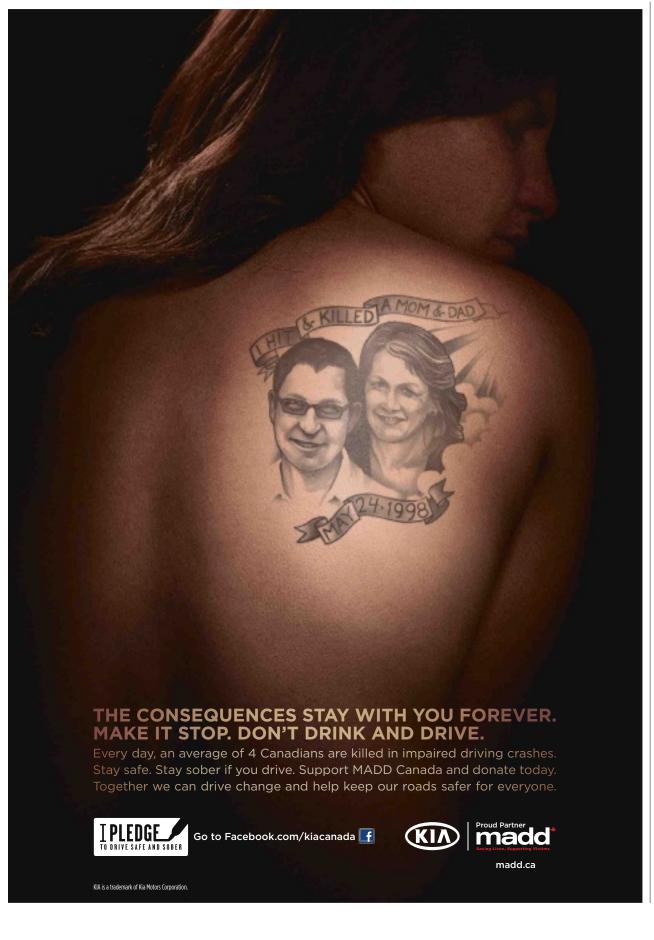
The online version of the U.K.'s Jewish Chronicle newspaper reports seeing copies of the book displayed in Manchester, Cheshire and Liverpool.

A Waterstone's spokesperson told the Chronicle that the large

bookstore chain doesn't actively promote the book and its customers "are capable of forming their own opinions on whether to purchase it or not."

"You do raise a couple of instances where we have obviously got things wrong. The book should not be stocked in any politics section," the spokesperson said.







Double trouble

Danielle and Nicole Fisher were in adjacent rooms in the same New Jersey hospital when they had their boys within 13 minutes of each other. Their due dates were a month apart. The women were born within 12 minutes of each other 23 years ago.

Toy jewels recalled by Health Canada

Health Canada is recalling more children's jewelry products after a sampling program turned up excessive lead in the products.

One recall involves metallic heart-shaped pendants and plastic bracelets imported from China and sold by Toy Land Co. of The other involves a Writer's Block necklace with love, peace and globe charms made by Jude M Designs of India and sold in Canada by Liquidation World Inc. of Brantford, Ont. Consumers should immediately take any recalled jewelry products away from children and dispose of them after contacting their municipality for instructions on disposing items containing lead.

For more information, consumers may contact Toy Land Company toll-free 1-800-668-6388.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Protest hinders holiday travellers

Holiday strikes to protest austerity measures paralyzed ground traffic in Belgium, delayed flights in Paris, and promised days of headaches for Christmas travellers around Europe.

TSX regulator plans to expedite enforcement

• Ottawa can have national regulator with support of all provinces • Quebec, Alberta and B.C. not on board

Canada's largest stock market watchdog is moving ahead with plans to speed up enforcement and says it will be business as usual with other provinces after Supreme Court scrapped a planned national securities regulator.

Ontario Securities Commission chairman Howard Wetston said Thursday the regulator is focused on the best interests of its own investors and companies,

though it will review a Supreme Court ruling that quashed the federal plan.

The regulator of Canada's dominant stock exchange — the TSX — has been developing new rules aimed at speeding up enforcement for securities law cases such as insider trading that drag on for years.

"We are currently dealing with important policy, enforcement, market infrastructure and other matters that will require our full commitment," Wetston said in a statement.

Supreme turned down Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's plan as unconstitutional, which effectively puts an end to a years-long push for a unified body to oversee capital markets.

Canada is the only country in the G20 without a national securities regulator. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Consumers reluctant to purchase big-ticket items

The Conference Board of Canada's latest consumer confidence numbers are back to where they were around the height of the 2008-2009 recession, a troubling sign of what's to come for the economy in 2012.

The Ottawa think-tank said Thursday its Index of Consumer Confidence posted a 6.5-point drop in December, bringing 2011 to a "disappointing" close and signalling that further belttightening by Canadians.

'We've always seen a link between the consumer confidence level today and consumer spending six months down the road," said board economist Todd Crawford in an interview.

Canadians tend to think their economy is based mainly on exports - and those do play a big role but a decline in consumer spending is not to be taken lightly, Črawford said.

"I think that's why most

people, and certainly us, are expecting (gross domestic product) growth in Canada to slow over the next two to three quarters."

At 69.9, the index is at its lowest point in more than two and a half years and down 11.1 points from the end of 2010.

The board uses a 2002 base of 100 in compiling the index, which reflects how Canadians feel about the economy, job creation, future major purchases and their personal finances.

The board said opinion eroded on all four questions, but responses to the major purchases question were particularly gloomy.

In December, just 34.1 per cent of respondents said now is a good time to buy a big-ticket item, down 1.9 percentage points from November and the eighth consecutive monthly decline. More worrisome is that 54 per cent said now is

Market moment

Dollar

(11,876.48)

+ 86¢ US

Natural gas \$3.169 US (+ 1.00¢ US)

Gold

(97.93¢ US)

(\$99.53 US)

a bad time to make a major purchase, up 3.5 percentage points from last month and more than 10 points higher than a year ago.

More than 27 per cent of respondents said they expected fewer jobs — the highest level since 2009.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Saskatoon **buys X-rated** domains

The City of Saskatoon has purchased six Internet domain names ending in .xxx, including Saskatoon.xxx, which were created for the adult entertainment industry. Kevin Peacock with the city says it's about protecting the brand and image of Saskatoon. The domain names cost taxpayers nearly \$1,000 to hold for two vears. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EU debt crisis ups German immigration

Figures show that immigration to Germany from countries hard hit by Europe's economic woes rose sharply in the first six months of the year. The statistical office says the number of Greek citizens moving to Germany rose by 84 per cent to about 8,900, while the number of Spaniards from January to June rose 49 per cent to 7,250. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Earnings up across Canada: StatsCan

Average weekly earnings of non-farm payroll employees increased 1.4 per cent to \$885.36 in October. Statistics Canada reports average weekly earnings were up 2.7 per cent from a year earlier. The agency says the average work week was unchanged from October 2010 at 33.0 hours. Earnings rose in every province. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Household debt, pricey housing threaten Canadian economy: IMF

A combination of high household debt, overpriced housing and external economic problems are putting Canada's recovery at risk, the International Monetary Fund is warning.

The most serious risk is the global environment, particularly the potential for Europe's sovereign debt issues to spiral out of control. That view is shared by

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney and Finance Minister Jim Flaherty.

The situation may be made worse because households are carrying high loads of debt — 153 per cent of disposable income in the latest data — and, the IMF says, Canadian homes are on average 10 per cent overpriced. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PIPPA AND PERILS OF 2011

THE METRO LIST

NEIL MORTON METRO Royal wedding: Two billion people watched Will and Kate tie the knot — and Pippa Middleton's derriere become world famous.

Steve Jobs: The visionary Apple cofounder died at age 56, having led a dramatic cultural and technological transformation.

Lindsay Lohan: Lohan salvaged a terrible year with the law — and her career — by appearing on Play-

boy's bestselling cover (which also made Playboy relevant again).

Lady Gaga: She arrived at the Grammys being carried in a huge egg. Which is what you do when you're trying really hard to be cool.

Ashton Kutcher & Demi Moore: They break up—and in keeping with relationship etiquette in the Social Media Age, unfollow each other on Twitter. Kim Kardashian: The woman famous for no reason has a marriage that only lasts 72 days for some reason. Oh yeah—it was her naked yoga instructor. Weinergate: Congressman Anthony Weiner tweets a photo of his penis by mistake, resulting in countless "wiener" jokes, a scandal—and, naturally, his

resignation.

Margaret Atwood: A public feud between Atwood and Toronto city councillor Doug Ford (Mayor Rob's older bro) leads to a cheeky "Atwood for Mayor" campaign.

Amy Winehouse: Joins the "27 club," a group of seminal musicians like Kurt Cobain, Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix and Jim Morrison who died at age 27.

Martha Stewart: Martha Stewart tweets, "Do you think I am hip?" That's one of the tweets of the year.

Kate Gosselin: Her reality show is cancelled, and her kids now live in peace. As one blog noted, "(The kids) know not the craven greed machine they were plugged into."

Tim Tebow: The devout Christian NFL QB with an unorthodox throwing style who people keep saying will fail just keeps winning. And Tebowmania and "Tebowing" goes viral.

Charlie Sheen: After getting fired from Two and a Half Men, the troubled Sheen launches a bizarre Violent Torpedo Of Truth tour.

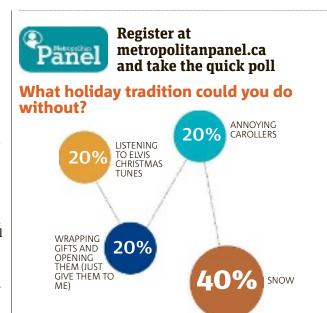
Thankfully, he's off whatever Kool-Aid he was on.

@bronxzoocobra: A cobra escapes a zoo and someone creates a hilarious Twitter account that goes viral, tweeting its time on the run. (Other awesome Twitter accounts like @S-tGirlsSay also go viral this year.)

Piers Morgan: Morgan replaces the legendary Larry King on CNN but has the makings of a legend himself with his intelligent hardball-with-a-cheeky-grin Q & A style.

Kissing Couple: During the riots in Vancouver, post-NHL final, an image of a couple lying on a tear-gas-filled street having a tender kiss with riot police around gets circulated throughout the world — becoming one of 2011's iconic images.

Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).



Local tweets



►@laserdeathstehr: Just

back from visiting the Ottawa food bank with some of my@macadamianlabs co-workers. Great to see how the money we raised will be used!

e **@joeboughner:** Things I learned today: 1) Ottawa has a Swatch store; 2) Said store does well enough to support storefront on Sparks; 3) Swatch still exists

@FedoraForMe: Cranber-

ries don't get enuff luv! RT @thestellas: I'm eating cranberries tonight!! The turkey is just a platform to get to the cranberries:)

• @hello_mcee: Self, even turkey dinners aren't worth ignoring your potato allergy. SO ILL NOW: (

• @ryanpaulgibson: We all know someone struggling this year. Operation Big Turkey wants to help. Also: Best charity name ever http://t.co/ILDRUUH2 #ottawa



Goalie and 'fan' clash on pitch

AMSTERDAM. Film buffs will say he took those moves straight out of 2001 martial-arts/sports movie mashup Shaolin Soccer. This striking image shows goalie Esteban Alvarado Brown, right, of AZ Alkmaar retaliate as he is attacked by a football hooligan during the Dutch cup match between Ajax and AZ Alkmaar.

"He walked to (the hooligan) and kicked him multiple times."
BAS NIJHUIS, REFEREE,

ON WHY HE SENT OFF ALVARADO



How the kung fu soccer unfolded

TIMELINE. The drunk Ajax "fan," 19, invaded the pitch and launched a flying kick towards the Costa Rican goalkeeper. Alvarado lashed out a series of his own kicks before security dragged the supporter away. After the goalie was given a red card for misconduct, Alkmaar's angry coach Gertjan Verbeek ordered his team to leave the pitch. • METRO WORLD NEWS



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Keeping a tab on technology

Flat, hard packages will be welcome this year. Tablet computers are extremely popular, and electronic reading devices such as the Kindle have matured and come down in price.

Which one to get? That's mostly a matter of your budget. The iPad and other full-blown tablets are more expensive, but they do virtually everything better. Consider pooling money from friends or family for a better device.

If you have more than \$300 to spend, go for one of these full-size tablets. They have colour screens that are about nine inches diagonally, and they have built-in cameras.

Apple 16GB iPad 2 (\$498.99 at Future Shop)

The device that made tablet computing mainstream still reigns, outothers selling combined. It's thinner than competing tablets and has access to an unparalleled array of applications: Half a million, of which 140,000 are adapted for the iPad's 9.7-inch screen. That means more good games, more useful reference apps and more entertainment options. The range of third-party book apps also means the iPad beats dedicated ereaders at their own game by giving users the ability to read books purchased from any store. The large screen displays documents comfortably.

Sony S1 16GB Tablet (\$399.99 at Best Buy)

There are a slew of tablets



* The Apple iPad 2.

from Samsung, Sony, LG and other manufacturers built around Google Inc.'s Android software. From a hardware standpoint, they are not much different from the iPad, though most of them are thicker, and they are available in a range of sizes.

The Tablet S stands out by including an infrared emitter, which makes it usable as a large universal remote control. It also plays some PlayStation games. It has a 9.4-inch screen, slightly smaller than the iPad's. It runs the latest version of Android, which is specially designed for tablets and is slick.

ASUS 10.1" Eee Pad Transformer, 16GB (\$346 at Wal-Mart)

The Transformer is a reasonably priced Android tablet that doubles as a "netbook," or small laptop, if you buy an accessory keyboard dock for \$109. You can get an accessory keyboard for any tablet, but the Transformer's attaches securely, and the combination folds up like a laptop. The keyboard has a touchpad, extra ports



🕸 A model plays a game on Sony's new Tablet S during a launch event in Tokyo.

IM SULLEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

The new Barnes & Noble Nook Tablet.

and an additional power pack, which prolongs battery life.

For those willing to travel

If you only want to spend \$200 US to \$250 US, go for one of these ereader/tablet hybrids, which aren't yet available in Canada. They add movies, games and other applications to the e-reader's capabilities, so they are not just for bookworms

Amazon Kindle Fire (\$199 US)

The Fire is Amazon's first colour Kindle. It runs a highly modified, user-friendly version of Android. The selection of apps is smaller than for other Android tablets, however. Notable inclusions are Netflix, Hulu and Comixology, a comic-book reader.

Barnes & Noble Nook Tablet (\$249 US)

The bookstore's answer to the Kindle Fire is an updated version of last year's Nook Color, a solid and successful e-reader. The Tablet has more memory than the Color or the Kindle Fire, and you can add even more.



★ The Amazon Kindle Touch 3G.

If your budget is limited to \$150, you will be tempted by some low-end colour tablets. But giving one away is like giving away a lump of coal: The colour touch screens that go into sub-\$200 devices look bad and have problems responding to fingers.

Instead, get one of these lightweight, quality e-read-



The Asus Eee Pad Transformer.

ers with black-and-white "electronic ink" screens for the bookworm in your life

Amazon Kindle Touch 3G (\$149 US)

Amazon still has a variety of monochrome Kindles, including its first touch-screen model. The screen is more legible than colour screens in bright daylight and uses very little power. But it's slow to respond, making navigation tedious. The lack of colour takes the joy out of children's books, magazines and comics. The device's touch sensitivity does make navigation easier.

Barnes & Noble Nook Simple Touch (\$99 US)

This slim, light e-reader is very similar to the \$99 non-3G Kindle Touch. Barnes & Noble's version has two advantages: It doesn't display advertising, and it can load books from other bookstores, including Google Books. It can't load Kindle books, though.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Seasonal Cheer



• Your wine and spirits guide

PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

Buying a bottle of booze as a gift is easy, right?

Buying the right bottle; now there's the challenge. Whether you have a wine, beer or spirit lover on your list one of these liquid gems is guaranteed to please.

White Owl Whisky (\$34.95-\$39.99)

Sure, while Canadian spirits are usually

brown, this unique blend of aged whiskies is filtered clear without losing any of its rich, rounded flavours.

St-Germain Liqueur (\$44.42-\$59.99)

This wine lover's liqueur is made with French handpicked elderflower blossoms. Soft

blossoms. Soft and refreshing, it's a perfect ingredient for champagne cocktails on Christmas morning.

Masi 2007 Costasera Amarone Classico (\$38.95-\$49.99)

Is there a red wine that appeals to every palate? I say it's Amarone. Made with dried grapes it's the ideal conversation vino that speaks volumes all by itself

Crystal Head Vodka (\$44.98-\$59.95)

OK, a skull-shaped bottle may not scream happy holidays, but this diamond-filtered neutral spirit designed by Ghostbuster Dan Aykroyd — will add some seasonal magic to any vodka cocktail.

Veuve Clicquot Brut Champagne Ice Jacket (\$65.15-\$69)

Veuve's nonvintage yel-

low-labelled bubbly is a standard. Add a neoprene slip cover that will keep the passion juice cold for up to two hours and you are talking perfection.

St-Rémy à la Crème

made with a base of St-Rémy brandy — has a sexy creaminess that marries perfectly with its smooth alcohol base.

essential and this one -

Skate Whisky (\$49.98-\$49.99)

will

score with

any Canadian whisky loving hockey fan gifting this spirit that's smooth and subtle on the inside

tle on the inside and classically kitschy (in a good way) on the outside.

Wychwood Bah Humbug Christmas Ale (\$3.50-\$5.29)

Ebenezer Scrooge's sour puss may be on the label, but this malty English ale will have the beer fans carolling.

The Kraken Black Spiced Rum (\$26.99-\$34.99)

Eggnog, meet your match. Dark, black and spicy, The Kraken unleashes major flavours that are exceptionally mixable and darn tasty on their own, too.

Taylors Fladgate Scion Tawny Port (\$3,495.99)

The wine for this once-in-alifetime tipple has been aged in barrels since 1855. Thought to be the last of its kind, there is no better way to say Merry Christmas.

> PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAIL-ABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

> > Clockwise from top: St-Germain Liqueur; Masi 2007 Costasera Amarone Classico; The Kraken Black Spiced Rum; St-Rémy à la Crème Liqueur; Crystal Head Vodka; Skate Whisky; White Owl Whisky; and Taylors Fladgate Scion Tawny Port.



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Victoria's Secret Angel Eau de Parfum, \$45-\$75, available at Victoria's Secret, victoriassecret.com.



Sephora Wild and Chic Aqua Eyes Collection, \$36, sephora.com.



Pomegranate Luxury Bag, \$68, available at Crabtree & Evelyn, crabtree-evelyn.com.

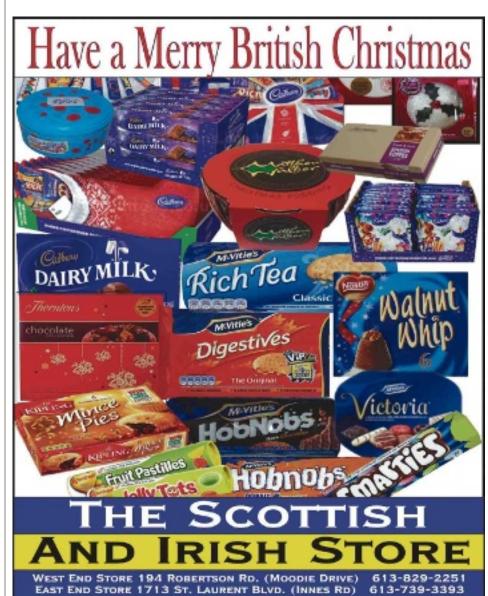


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'Tis the season to be frazzled. Luckily if you're equipped with a smartphone, you have help. While you can use your device to Google nearby stores, videotape holiday concerts or check the weather, there's much more your smartphone can do to help you get things wrapped up before Christmas morning.

Use your Mobilicity mobile phone's notes option to put together a final list of

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The line-ups just before Christmas can be unbelievable, and with kids in tow, you'd better find a way to keep them busy. Hand the kids your mobile phone or suggest they use their own to try a few games of Solitaire. Better yet, download one of these apps to reduce stress and have a bit of fun!

items you still need to buy. Or, download GETTING AROUND TOWN the Free Christmas List (Android) or Gift Organizer (\$3.99, BlackBerry) app to keep track. Both apps help organize your list and add in gift ideas, while the Card Star app (free, Android) can help manage your loyalty program cards.

Not sure if that electric drill is a good deal? The Consumer Reports Mobile Shopper 2012 app (free, BlackBerry; \$4.89, Android) lets you compare ratings, reviews and feedback on products. Goods are searchable via a database or barcode scan. Better yet, if you have an Android phone, add the Red Laser Barcode & QR Scanner app or the Google Shopper app (both free) to search for deals.

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and candy canes have

invaded this holiday

version of the über-

popular game app.

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This cute and confus

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ENTERTAINING WAYS

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little elephant is convinced he's a

Much like the Talking Tom Cat that might already have a place in your phone, Talking Santa repeats after you, enjoys being tickled, and is pretty

reindeer and takes a run at your phone screen.

TALKING SANTA ANDROID - FREE

thankful when you feed him milk and cookies.

enjoy. Wine expert Maclean offers a

guide of wines to bring, and you can

even scan a bottle to get a review of

If you're hosting the party and are in

need of a recipe refresher, use your phone

to watch your favourite TV chefs cooking

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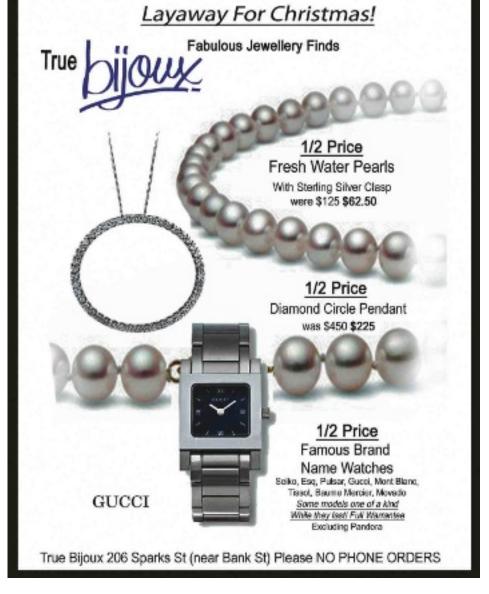
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Synopsis

Since first being published in December 1843 Charles Dickens's story of Ebenezer Scrooge's emotional transformation from hoarder to Ho Ho-er has been presented in many forms. A Christmas Carol has been adapted into opera, ballet, a Broadway musical and even a mime show starring Marcel Marceau. On film there have been at least 28 versions of the story and dozens more for television. This week the Reel Guys have a look at the best big screen versions of the classic story.

Reel Guys

MARK

RICHARD CROUSE &

BRESLIN









Scene in brief



If you're experiencing a joy overload on Christmas Day, revel in some apocalyptic fare at the movie theatre. The Darkest Hour opens Dec. 25. The film follows five people in Moscow fighting an alien race who have attacked Earth via our power supply.

METRO



Bah, humbug!

Sim, Murray and Carrey have all played the miser who finds redemption
◆ Crouse and Breslin debate the best movie version of A Christmas Carol



Richard: Mark, there is only one must-see out of all the dozens of film and TV versions of the Charles Dickens classic and that's the 1951 Alastair Sim version. Nearly perfect in every way, it is a tale of redemption that confirms the fundamental spiritual nature of Christmas itself. In other words, it makes us feel good. Accept no substitutes. If, however, you've already seen it this year or you're allergic to black and white movies, there are alternatives.

MB: Richard, you are so right. The movie HAS to be in black and white to

make us feel the spirit of Dickensian deprivation. It's the classic. But growing up in a Jewish household, it didn't have any importance to me as a child. I discovered it much later, and was transfixed by its narrative power and perfectly gloomy mood. May I contrast this with the Jim Carrey version? Now that's a movie with no sense of mystery, and a buffoonish interpretation of the lead character. I feel sorry for children who grow up with this bloated, CGI-laden excuse for a classic. Richard, please don't tell me you like it!

RC: Before I saw the Jim Carrey version of A Christmas Carol I wondered why remake a story that has been done so often and so well in the past. I've seen it and I'm still wondering. The weirdly lifeless animation was creepy, akin to a Christmas story performed by zombies.

MB: Let me praise Bill Murray's version Scrooged. It's far from authentic, light years away from Dickens, but it makes its points in a very modern way. Bill Murray is great in it, and the writing is sharp and satirical. Setting it in the milieu of the television industry

obviously changes the mood of the original, but as long as you see the movie as an interesting and successful riff upon the original story, and not as a substitute for it, it's a great movie for the season.

RC: I agree. It's become a must see for me every year. Although I don't have to see The Muppets Christmas Carol every year, it is a treat to see Michael Caine as Scrooge. I also like the musical Scrooge with Albert Finney in the lead.

MB: I've never seen it! I sure hope they gave Tiny Tim a tap solo.



Movie reviews

See it twice ����� | See it now ���� | Worth watching ��� | Yawn �� | Don't bother �



We Bought a Zoo

Genre: Comedy
Director: Cameron Crowe
Stars: Matt Damon, Scarlett Johansson, Thomas Haden
Church

-

Cameron Crowe might not seem on surface the first choice for a family friendly comedy, but a closer look at his work — from Almost Famous to Jerry Maguire — proves otherwise. Crowe's pictures almost always deal with family situ-

ations, mostly unorthodox, but always gripped by truth and sentimentality. His adaptation of the best-selling book, We Bought a Zoo, is really just another Crowe joint: melancholy yet joyous, optimistic and truthful. Matt Damon is in fine form as the still-aching widow who moves his two children to a dilapidated country zoo and he's matched by Scarlett Johansen as a feisty zookeeper. • CHRIS ALEXANDER



War Horse

Genre: Drama **Director:** Steven Spielberg **Stars:** Jeremy Irvine, Emily Watson

A book-turned-playturned Steven Spielberg epic, War Horse is a manipulated but multilayered telling of the First World War through the eyes of a tempestuous thoroughbred. Combining several characters from both sides of the battle, Spielberg overextends his focus on sentimentality but as he's proved in Saving Private Ryan, nobody crafts cinematic combat scenes better and the auteur succeeds most notably with a stunningly filmed cavalry charge that outlines the harrowing carnage of war. • STEVE GOW



The Artist

Genre: Drama

Director: Michel Hazanavicius **Stars:** Jean Dujardin, Berenice Bejo, John Goodman

Black and white; silent; set in silent-era Hollywood; and subtitled, The Artist may not scream mainstream must see, but it's one of the year's most gloriously memorable films. This French jewel is magical, pure and dreamy on

the surface, blazing emoand irrevocable tion change underneath. Dujardin is Valentin, the toast of Tinseltown, a matinée idol who charms the birds out of the fake trees that line Mulholland Drive. But he's about to lose it all if he can't make the cut to sound. The Artist feels like a fairy tale, something you're watching in a theatre and it is 1927.

ANNE BRODIE





Top 10 TIFF films of 2011

• Find out who made the list for the top movies of 2011 from TIFF

Did your favourite make the list?

Now that Santa's naughty and nice list has been put away for another year, it's time to have a look at another list, Canada's Top 10, the Toronto International Film Festival's annual tally of the best Canadian features. In alphabetical order, here are the winners as chosen by a panel of industry experts.

Café de flore

The main pleasure in this story about the uncompromising power of true love is watching Vanessa Paradis throw glamour out the window and deliver a gritty, but lovingly rendered performance as a protective mother.

A Dangerous Method

Here two pioneering psychoanalysts, played by Michael Fassbender and Viggo Mortensen, have a falling out over an intelligent, beautiful but troubled patient (Keira Knightley). The movie is an enticing stew of psychosexuality and repression that challenges commonly held beliefs about what is normal and what is not.

Edwin Boyd

The story of Canada's John Dillinger is an entertaining romp through three decades in the life of a notorious homegrown folk

Hobo With a Shotgun

This is like what would have happened if Roger



Corman made Death Wish with a fake blood budget the size of a James Cameron movie.

Keyhole

Guy Maddin's homage to 1930's gangster melodramas is exactly what we expect from the eccentric

director. It's an expressionistic, beautifully grotesque story that demands multiple viewings.

Marécages

This lush looking story of the hardships of rural life and keeping a family together is slow moving but

rewarding. Monsieur Lazhar

Canada's official entry to

the Oscar race, this schoolroom drama — think To Sir with Love, with a suicide subplot — is one of the best films of the year, Canadian or otherwise.

Starbuck

A charming movie about a man — winningly played by Patrick Huard —who discovers his sperm bank donations unwittingly made him the father of 533 children, 142 of whom have filed a class action lawsuit to learn their biological father's real identi-

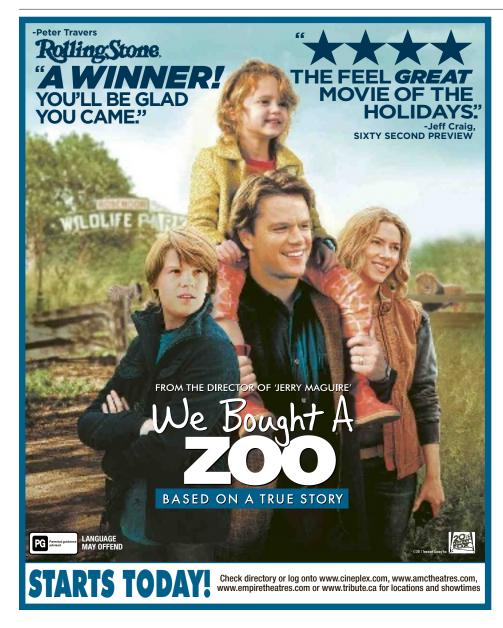
Take This Waltz

This second feature from director Sarah Polley is a bittersweet Canadian kitchen sink drama about being trapped in a marriage with someone who can't speak his mind.

Le Vendeur

This looks at what happens to life in a small town when the largest employer is about to shut down. It is a Main Street drama seen through the eyes of a kindly car salesman.

RICHARD CROUSE





Top 5 ladies to look out for

GINA CARANO

How does a mixed martial-artist end up as the lead in a Steven Soderbergh indie spy thriller? And with a supporting cast that includes acting heavyweights Ewan McGregor, Michael Fassbender and Michael Douglas? She kicks ass, obviously.



Did you know?

"It's so satisfying watching her beat the (expletive) out of the cast," Soderbergh told The Playlist blog about Carano.

He caught her on TV one night and thought, Why has no one made a movie with her?

ELIZABETH OLSEN

The Olsen Twins' younger sister got a major headstart in 2011 with her impressive performance in indie cult film Martha Marcy May Marlene and this thoughtful, wideeved actress will continue the momentum with Liberal Arts, written and directed by How I Met Your Mother star Josh Radnor. She'll also appear in the horror flick Silent House (March 9) and paranormal thriller Red Lights alongside Robert De Niro and Cillian Murphy.



LILY COLLINS

The spawn of Sussudio impresario Phil Collins already had her coming out party in 2011 with roles in Abduction and Priest. This year the 22year-old has a starring role in Tarsem Singh's lighthearted take on the Snow White fairytale in Mirror Mirror (March 16th) co-starring Julia Roberts, along with prominent roles in The English Teacher co-starring Julianne Moore and sci-fi film The Mortal In-

ANDREA RISEBOROUGH

Thank the Material Girl herself, Madonna, for bringing this English Rose to the forefront in 2012. Riseborough will start off the year with her lauded performance in Madge-directed feature W.E. (Feb. 3) as controversial paramour to King Edward the 8th, Wallis Simpson. She'll stay at the forefront with IRA thriller Shadow Dancer, as well as Disconnect, co-starring True Blood babe Alexander Skarsgard and Jason Bateman — finishing it off with English crime thriller Welcome to the Punch.



TAYLOR SCHILLING

Oh, to star in a Nicholas Sparks book adaptation. Though she may've been the lead in failed TV show Mercy and dead-onarrival Atlas Shrugged: Part One as lead character Dagny Taggart, somebody in Hollywood has some faith in this American 27year-old. She's been cast opposite Zac Efron in The Lucky One (April 20), a romance about an Iraq war veteran who goes in search of the woman whose photo became his good luck charm while fighting in the war.

Schilling will also star in Ben Affleckdirected political thriller Argo in 2012.

And let's not forget the guys ...



MICHAEL FASSBENDER

We're not going to hide our partiality to this Irish-German export, 34, who was ubiquitous in 2011 with an impressive four releases, including X-Men: First Class and Jane Eyre. His upcoming spy flick with director Steven Soderbergh, Haywire (Jan. 20), combined with all the awards-season buzz he's been getting for his performance in 2011's Shame will propel Fassbender to A-List by the time his sci-fi film Prometheus, a semi-prequel to Alien, is released in the summer (June 8).



CHRIS DIAMANTOPOULOS

 We finally learned how to spell Galifianakis, so it's about time another comedic actor with an impossibly lengthy Greek last name take the scene by storm. Audiences first got to meet D-what's-hisface on the American sitcom Up All Night but the Greco-Canadian actor will get even more exposure this spring (April 13) with the release of The Three Stooges, in which he plays Moe, the only Stooge with a passable haircut.



JOSH HUTCHERSON

► This 19-year-old actor has been working steadily in Hollywood, but it'll be the March 23 release of the highly anticipated film adaptation of The Hunger Games that makes him a star. While we can't promise he'll be the next Robert Pattinson — sorry, RPatz will always have a special vampire lair in our hearts — the series' rabid fanbase will give Hutcherson a fast pass to megastardom. Especially because it's a romantic lead. (For younger kids, he's also in 2012's Journey 2: The Mysterious Island.)







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The Dark Knight Rises

We're just as curious to see how Christopher Nolan rounds out his trilogy of Batman films — he insists this is the final chapter — as we are to see if The Dark Knight Rises can come close to matching the \$1 billion that 2008's The Dark Knight pulled in worldwide. Christian Bale is back as Batman, along with Michael Caine as Alfred and Gary Oldman as Commissioner Gordon, and for this go round they're joined by newcomers Tom Hardy (as Bane) and Catwoman Anne Hathaway. Due in July. NED EHRBAR



Year of the superhero?

From comic book films to literary adaptations, 2012 looks very promising



The Avengers

After great turns in their own films in 2011,
Captain America (Chris Evans) and Thor (Chris Hemsworth) join up with Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.), Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson),
Hawkeye (Jeremy Renner) and the Hulk (Mark Ruffa-

lo) for the ensemble flick Marvel Studios has been building to since Samuel L. Jackson popped up after the credits of 2008's Iron Man. And while the first trailer might just look like an ad for Iron Man 3, having director Joss Whedon (Buffy the Vampire Slayer) at the helm is keeping hopes high. Due in May.

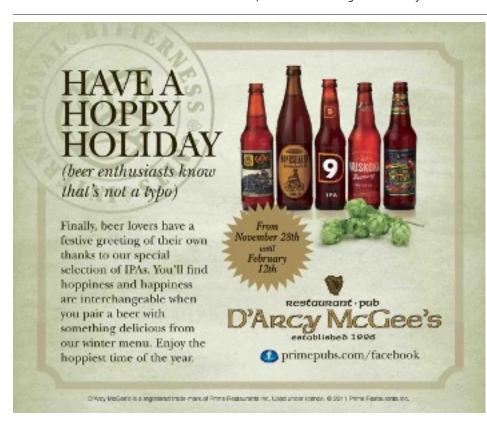
The Hunger Games and Twilight finale

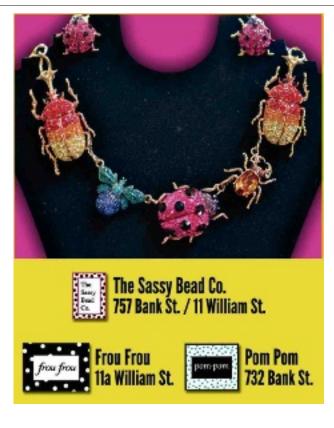
With the Twilight saga wrapping up at the end of 2012, all eyes are on Lionsgate's adaptation of Suzanne Collins' bestselling teen dystopia to fill the void. There are three books in the Hunger Games series, but if the first movie is a hit, don't be surprised if the latter chapters start getting split up into multiple films. Jennifer Lawrence stars. Due in March.



The Amazing Spider-Man

Exactly 10 years after Tobey Maguire first crawled up his first wall, the webslinger saga is starting over, this time with Andrew Garfield (The Social Network) suiting up as Spider-Man and director Marc Webb (500 Days of Summer) behind the camera. The new version promises to be darker and grittier than the last run, but with Spider-Man 3 just five years behind it, will audiences be interested in the franchise reboot? Due in July.





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Anonymous (PG) Tue 1:45 Wed 4:20 Thu

9:10 **The Artist** (PG) Fri 6:45 Sat 3:30-5:40

Mon 4-9:05 Tue 4:25-9:05 Wed 2:10-7 Thu

Café de Flore (14A) Fri 4:15 Sat 7:30 Mon 1:30 Tue 6:35 Wed 9:10 Thu 4:30 The Help (PG) Fri 8:55 Sat 12:30 Mon

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10-11:10-11:45-12:55-1:30-2:40-3:50-5:10-5:45-6:55 Fri 10:35-12:20-2:05-3:15 Sat 10:35-12:20 Mon-Wed 10:35-12:20-2:05-3:15 Thu 10:35-12:20-2:05-3:15-4:35-6:20

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Listings not available at press time.

COLISEUM OTTAWA

3090 Carling Ave., 613-596-9475 The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) No

Passes Fri 1:20-4:20-7-9:40 No Passes Sat 1:20-4:20-7 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:20-4:20-7

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (6) Fri 12:40-1:30-2:50-4:30-5-7:30-9:45 Sat 12:40-1:30-2:50-4:30-5-7:30 Sun-Thu 12:40-1:30-2:50-4:30-5-7:30-9:45

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri-Thu 12:35

The Darkest Hour 3D (PG) Sun-Thu 1-

Don 2 3D (14A) Fri 12:20-3:40-6:55-10:15 Sat 12:20-3:40-6:55 Sun-Thu 12:20-3:40-

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) No Passes Fri 3:10-6:40-10:05 No Passes Sat 3:10-6:40 No Passes Sun-Thu

Hansel and Gretel: Met Opera Hol-

iday Encore (STC) Thu 11 Hugo 3D (PG) Fri 12:25-3:20-6:35-9:20 Sat

tocol (PG) No Passes Fri 12:30-1:10-3:30-4:10-6:30-7:10-9:30-10:10 No Passes Sat 12:30-1:10-3:30-4:10-6:30-7:10 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:30-1:10-3:30-4:10-6:30-7:10 9:30-10:10

The Muppets (G) Fri 1-4-7:05-9:35 Sat 1-4-7:05 Sun-Tue 1:15-4:15 Wed-Thu 1:45-

New Year's Eve (PG) Fri 1:15-4:15-7:15-10 Sat 1:15-4:15-7:15 Sun-Thu 6:45-9:35 Sherlock Holmes: A Game of

Shadows (PG) No Passes Fri 7:20-10:20 No Passes Sat 7:20 No Passes Sun-Thu 7:20-10:20 No Passes Sur 1:12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50
No Passes Sat 12:50-3:50-6:50 No Passes
Sun-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50
War Horse (PG) No Passes Sun-Thu

12:25-3:45-7:05-10:25

12:25-3:45-7:05-10:25 **We Bought a Zoo** (PG) No Passes Fri 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:30 No Passes Sat 1:40-4:40-7:40 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:40-4:40-

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The Darkest Hour (PG) Digital Sun 3:45-6:45-9:25 Digital Mon-Thu 12:35-3:45-

The Descendants (14A) Digital Fri 3:25 6:35-9:15 Digital Sat 12:25-3:25-6:35 Digital Sun 3:30-6:35-9:15 Digital Mon-Thu 12:25-

73-30-35-31-3 The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Digital Fri 3:15-6:20-9:30 Digital Sat 12:05-3:15-6:20 Digital Sun 3:15-6:20-9:30 Digital Mon-Thu 12:05-3:15-6:20-9:30 Hugo (PG) Digital Sun 3:20-6:25-9:10 Digi-

tal Mon-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:25-9:10 Hugo 3D (PG) Fri 3:20-6:25-9:10 Sat

Margin Call (STC) Digital Fri 3:35-6:40-9:25 Digital Sat 12:35-3:35-6:40

My Week With Marilyn (14A) Digital Fri 3:45-6:45-9:35 Digital Sat 12:45-3:45-

War Horse (PG) Digital Sun 3:25-6:30-9:35 Digital Mon-Thu 12:15-3:25-6:30-9:35 We Bought a Zoo (PG) Digital Fri 3:30-6:30-9:20 Digital Sat 12:30-3:30-6:30 Digital Sun 3:35-6:40-9:20 Digital Mon-Thu

12:30-3:35-6:40-9:20 **Young Adult** (14A) Digital Fri 3:40-6:50-9:40 Digital Sat 12:40-3:40-6:50 Digital Sun 3:40-6:50-9:40 Digital Mon-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:50-9:40

MAYFAIR THEATRE

1074 Bank St., 613-730-3403. mayfair-movie.com

The Dog Who Stopped the War The Great Muppet Caper (STC) Thu 1
The Ides of March (14A) Fri 7 Mon-Tue
7 Wed-Thu 9:30

The Muppets (G) Tue 1 No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat-

OTTAWA FAMILY CINEMA

710 Broadview Ave., 613-722-8218, familycinema.ca

No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri-

RAINBOW CINEMAS

St. Laurent Centre, 1200 St. Laurent Blvd., 613-688-0850

Dolphin Tale 3D (G) Fri-Sat 12:05-2:20-4:35 Mon-Thu 12:05-2:20-4:35 **The Help** (PG) Fri-Sat 12:50-4 Sun 4 Mon-

In Time (PG) Fri 10-6:55-9:30 Mon-Thu

10-6:55-9:30 **J. Edgar** (PG) Fri 9:55-4:30-9:10 Sat 9:55-7. Eugar (rd) 19:55-430-9:10 Sat 9:55-4:30 Sun 4:30 Mon-Thu 10:20-7:25-9:25 Sat 10:20 Sun 7:25 Mon-Thu 10:20-7:25-9:25 Sat 10:20 Sun 7:25 Mon-Thu 10:20-7:25-9:25 Puss in Boots (G) Fri 12:30-2:30-7:10 Sat 12:30-2:30 Sun 7:10 Mon-Thu 12:30-2:30-

Puss in Boots 3D (G) Fri-Sat 10:30-12:40-2:40-5 Sun 5 Mon-Thu 10:30-12:40-

Tower Heist (PG) Fri 10:10-12:10-2:25-4:45-7-9:15 Sat 10:10-12:10-2:25-4:45 Sur 2:25-4:45 Mon-Thu 10:10-12:10-2:25-4:45-7

A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas (18A) Fri 7:20-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:20-

RIDEAU CENTRE CINEMAS 50 Rideau St., 613-234-3712

The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn (PG) Digital Sat

The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn 3D (PG) Fri 4:30-7:10-9:35 Sat 4 Sun 6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Pro-tocol (PG) Digital Fri 4-6:50-9:40 Digital Sat 12:30-3:30 Digital Sun 6-9 Digital Mon-Thu 1-4-6:50-9:40

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Digital Fri 4:15:7-9:45 Digital Sat 12:40-3:40 Digital Sun 6:15-9:15 Digital Mon-Thu 1:15-4:15-7-9:45

SOUTH KEYS

2214 Bank St., 613-736-1115

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 11:20-1:55-4:35-7:25-10:10 No Passes Sat 11:20-1:55-4:35-7:25 No Passes Sun 1:55-4:35-7:25-10:10 No Passes Mon-

Sun 1:55-4:35/25-10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 11:20-155-4:35-7:25-10:10 **Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked** (G) Fri-Sat 11:10-12-1:25-2:15-3:45-3:30-6:50 Sun 12:50-1:25-3:30-3:45-6:50 Mon-Thu

11:10-12-1:25-2:15-3:45-4:30-6:50 **Arthur Christmas** (G) Fri-Sat 11:15-1:40-4:25 Sun 1:40-4:25 Mon-Thu 11:15-

The Darkest Hour 3D (PG) Sun 2:30-5:20-7:50-10:15 Mon-Thu 11:40-2:30-5:20-7:50-10:45

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo

(18A) No Passes Fri 11:45-3:15-6:45-10:15 (164) NO Fasses 111.45-3.15-6.45 NO Passes Sat 11:45-3:15-6.45-10:15 NO Passes Mon-Thu 11:45-3:15-6:45-10:15 NO Passes Mon-Thu 11:45-3:15-6:45-10:15 Happy Feet Two (PG) Fri-Sat 11:05-1:35

Sun 1:35 Mon-Thu 11:05-1:35 **Hugo 3D** (PG) Fri 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) No Passes Fri 11-12:30-2-3:30-5:15-7-8:30-10:20 No Passes Sat

11-12:30-2:30-3:40-6:35-7 No Passes Sun 12:30-2-3:40-5:15-7-8:30-10:25 No Passes 11:30-23:40-3.43-7-8.30-10:25 No rasses Mon-Thu 11:12:30-2-3:40-5:15-7-8:30-10:25 The Muppets (G) Fri 11:40-2:20-4:55-7:35-10:10 Sat 11:40-2:20-4:55-7:35 New Year's Eve (PG) Fri 4:05-7:20-10:05

Sat 4:05-7:20 Sun-Thu 4:05-7:20-10:05 Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) No Passes Fri 12:15-3:20-6:10-6:55-9:05-9:50 No Passes Sat 12:15-3:20-6:10-6:55 No Passes Sun

12:30-3:20-6:10-6:55-9:05-9:50 No Passes n-Thu 12:15-2:20-6:10-6:55-0:05-0:50 The Sitter (14A) Fri 9:05 Sun 9:05 Mon-

War Horse (PG) No Passes Sun 3-6:30-9:55 No Passes Mon-Tue 11:30-3-6:30-9:55 No Passes Wed 11:30-3-6:30-9:50 No Passes Thu 11:30-3-7:05-10:30 **We Bought a Zoo** (PG) No Passes Fri 11-

1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20 No Passes Sat 11-1:50-4:40-7:40 No Passes Sun 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu

Young Adult (14A) Fri 7:40-10 Sat 7:10

GATINEAU

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION

100 rue Laurier, 819-776-7010

Born to Be Wild 3D (STC) Fri 10:45-3 Sat 10:45 Mon-Thu 10:45-3 Coral Reef Adventure (STC) Mon-Tue

Coraux du Pacifique (STC) Fri 8:05

L'Express des Rocheuses (STC) Fri 4-7 Nes Pour Etre Libres 3D (STC) Fri 12:55 Mon 6 Tue-Thu 12:55 No Films Showing Today (STC) Su

Rocky Mountain Express (STC) Fri 11:50-2-5 Sat 11:50 Mon-Tue 11:50-2-5-7 Wed 11:50-2-5 Thu 11:50-2-5-7

CINÉ-CAMPUS UQO 283 rue St-Jean-Bosco, 819-773-1888

CINÉMA DES GALERIES D'AYLMER

400 boul. Wilfrid-Lavigne, 819-248-2526

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (G) Fri 12:50-3:10-6:50-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:10 Mon-Thu 12:50-3:10-6:50-9:10 Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri 1:10-3:20-7:10-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:20 Mon-Thu 1:10-3:20-7:10-

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Pro-tocol (13+) Fri 12:50-3:30-6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:30 Mon-Thu

12:50-3:30-6:50-9:30 **Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows** (G) Fri 1-3:40-7-9:40 Sat-Sun 7-9:40 Mon-Thu 1-3:40-7-9:40

CINÉ-STARZ 1100 boul. Maloney Ouest.

819-568-8000

Le chat potté (G) Fri-Thu 12-1:50-3:25-5-

En temps (G) Fri 8:10 Mon-Thu 8:10 Harold et Kumar fêtent Noël (STC)

Jack et Jill (G) Fri 5:30-9 Sat-Sun 5:30

Mon-Thu 5:30-9
Les Muppets (G) Fri-Thu 12-1:55-3:50
Les petits pieds du bonheur 2 (G)
Fri-Thu 12-1:50-3:40-7:05

La saga Twilight: Révélation 1re partie (0) Fri 1:35-3:40-5:40-7:45-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:35-3:40-5:40-7:45 Mon-Thu 1:35-3:40-5:40-7:45-9:45

Les Schtroumpfs (STC) Fri-Thu 12 La veille du nouvel an (G) Fri 7:35-9:40 Sat-Sun 7:35 Mon-Thu 7:35-9:40

CINÉ-PARC TEMPLETON **DRIVE-IN**

1779 boul. Maloney Est, 819-663-0915

Listings not available at press time

GATINEAU 9 120 boul. de l'Hôpital, 819-568-6070

Alvin et les Chipmunks: Les naufragés (G) Fri 12-2:15-4:30-6:50-9:05

Sat 12-2:15-4:30 Sun 2:15-4:30-6:50 Mon-Thu 12-2:15-4:30-6:50-9:05 Les aventures de Tintin 3D (G) Fri 7:15-9:45 Sat 1:10-3:50 Sun 3:50-7:15 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:45

Thu 7:15-9:45

Cheval de guerre (G) Sun 3:25-6:30

Mon-Thu 12:20-3:25-6:30-9:30

Crépuscule (G) Sun 3-6:45 Mon-Thu
12:50-3-6:45-8:45

L'artiste (G) Fri 1:20-4-7:20-10 Sat 1:20-4

Sun 4-7:20 Mon-Thu 1:20-4-7:20-10

Millenium: Les hommes qui n'aimaient pas les femmes (13+) Fri 12:30-4:10-8 Sat 12:30 Sun 3-6 Mon-Thu

Mission Noël (G) Fri 12:50-3-6:45-8:45

12:40-3:30-6:40-9:40

12:40-3:30-0:40-9:40 Nous avons acheté un zoo (G) Fri 12:10-2:45-6:20-9 Sat 12:10-2:45 Sun 2:45-6:20 Mon-Thu 12:10-2:45-6:20-9 La saga Twilight: Révélation 1re partie (G) Fri 12:20-3:25-6:30-9:30 Sat

Sat 12:50-3 Mission: Impossible protocole fantôme (13+) Fri 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:40 Sat 12:40-3:30 Sun 3:30-6:40 Mon-Thu

Sherlock Holmes: Le jeu des om-

bres (G) Fri 1-3:45-7:10-9:50 Sat 1-3:45 Sun

3:45-7:10 Mon-Thu 1-3:45-7:10-9:50

STARCITÉ HULL

115 boul. du Plateau, 819-770-1090, cinemasfortune.ca

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (G) No Passes Fri 1:15-4:15-8:05-10:45 No Passes Sat 1:15-4:15-8:05 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:15-

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri 12:15-2:30-4:45-7-9:15 Sat 12:15-2:30-4:45-7 Sun-Thu 12:15-

2:30-4:45-7-9:15 Alvin et les Chipmunks: Les naufragés (G) Fri 12:30-2:45-5-7:20-9:35 Sat 12:30-2:45-5-7:20 Sun-Thu 12:30-2:45-5-

Les aventures de Tintin (G) No Passes Fri 1-3:35-6:55-9:40 No Passes Sat 1-3:35-6:55 No Passes Sun-Thu 1-3:35-6:55-9:40 Les aventures de Tintin 3D (G) No Passes Fri 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:20 No Passes Sat 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:05-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:20 **The Darkest Hour 3D** (G) Sun-Thu

12:20-2:35-4:50-7:35-9:50

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (13+) No Passes Fri 12:25-3:50-7:15-10:40 No Passes Sat 12:25-3:50-7:15 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:25-3:50-7:15-10:40 **Hugo 3D** (STC) Fri 12:20-3:10-6:40-9:30

Millenium: Les hommes qui n'aimaient pas les femmes (13+) No Passes Fri 12-3:25-6:50-10:15 No Passes Sat 12-3:25-6:50 No Passes Sun-Thu 3:25-6:50-

Mission Noël (G) Fri 12:10-2:35-5:05-7:35-10 Sat 12:10-2:35-5:05-7:35 Sun-Thu

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (13+) No Passes Fri 1:10-4:10-7:25-10:25 No Passes Sat 1:10-4:10-7:25 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:25-10:25

Mission: Impossible protocole fantôme (13+) No Passes Fri 12:50-3:55-7:05-10:05 No Passes Sat 12:50-3:55-7:05 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:50-3:557:05 New Year's Eve (G) Fri 12:45-3:40-6:45-9:25 Sat 12:45-3:40-6:45 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:40-6:45-9:25

DVDs

2 LOCATIONS:

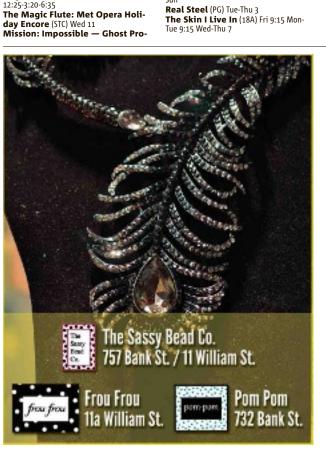
593 Bank St.

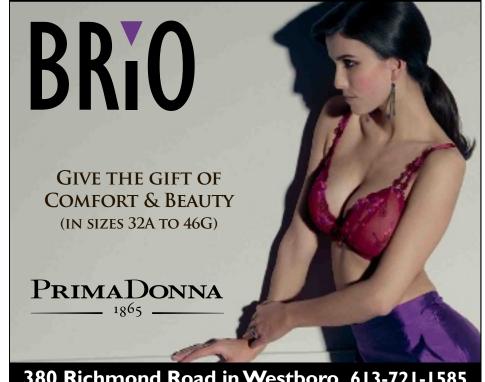
in the Glebe

613-234-1210

396 Athlone Ave. in Westboro

613-728-4800





380 Richmond Road in Westboro 613-721-1585

STARCITÉ HULL

115 boul. du Plateau, 819-770-1090, cinemasfortune.ca

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (G) No Passes Fri 1:05-4-7:30-10:30 No Passes Sat 1:05-4-7:30 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:05-

4-7:30-10:30
Sherlock Holmes: Le jeu des ombres
(G) No Passes Fri 12:35-3:30-7:10-10:10 No
Passes Sat 12:35-3:30-7:10 No Passes Sun-Thu
12:35-3:30-7:10-10:10
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn

Part 1 (G) Fri 12:40-3:20-7:45-10:40 Sat 12:40-3:20-7:45 Sun-Thu 12:40-3:20-7:45-10:40 War Horse (G) No Passes Sun-Thu 12-3:15-7-

10:10 **We Bought a Zoo** (G) No Passes Fri 12:55-3:45-7:40-10:35 No Passes Sat 12:55-3:45-7:40 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:55-3:45-7:40-10:35

BARRHAVEN

BARRHAVEN CINEMAS 131 Riocan Dr., 613-825-2463

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 7:20-10 No Passes Sat 1:20-4:20-7:20 No Passes Sun 4:20-7:20-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:20-10

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri 6:50-9:30 Sat 12:40-3:30-6:50 Sun 3:30-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 12:40-

Arthur Christmas (G) Sat 1:30-4:30 Sun 4:30 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:30

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo

(18A) No Passes Fri 6:45-10:10 No Passes Sat 12-3:20-6:45 No Passes Sun 3:20-6:45-10:10

12-3:20-0.49 NO Fasses 3011 3:20-0.49-10:10
NO Fasses Mon-Thu 12-3:20-6:45-10:10
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) No Passes Fri 6:40-9:40 No Passes Sat 12:30-3:40-6:40 No Passes Sun 3:40-6:40-9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:30-3:40-6:40-9:40 **New Year's Eve** (PG) Fri 7:15-9:55 Sat 7:15

Sun-Thu 7:15-9:55

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) No Passes Fri 7-10:15 No Passes Sat 1-3:50-7 No Passes Sun 3:50-7-10:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 1-3:50-7-10:15

We Bought a Zoo (PG) No Passes Fri 7:10-10:05 No Passes Sat 12:50-4:10-7:10 No Passes

Sun 4:10-7:10-10:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:50-4:10-7:10-10:05

GLOUCESTER

SILVERCITY 2385 City Park Dr., 613-688-8800

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40 No Passes Sat 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:35 No Passes Sun 2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri-Sat 11-12:10-1:10-2:30-3:30-4:50-5:50-7:10-8:10-10:35 Sun 12:30-1:10-2:40-3:30-4:50-5:50-7:10-8:10-10:35 Mon-Thu 11-12:10-1:10-2:30-3:30-4:50-5:50-7:10-8:10-10:35

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri-Sat 12:20 Sun 12:30-2:50-5:15 Mon-Thu 12:20-2:50-5:15 Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri-Sat 2:50-

5:15-7:40-10

The Darkest Hour 3D (PG) Sun 1:20-3:40-6:10-8:30-10:50 Mon-Thu 11:05-1:20-3:40-6:10-8:30-10:50

The Descendants (14A) Fri-Sat 2:35-5:15-

7:50-10:25 Sun 5:15-7:50-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:35-

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo

(18A) No Passes Fri 12:30-4-7:30-10:55 No Passes Sat 12:30-4-7:30 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:30-4-7:30-10:55 No Passes Fri 11:45-3:15-6:45-10:10 No Passes Sat 11:45-3:15-6:45-10 No Passes Sun 3:15-6:45-10:10 No Passes Mon-

Thu 11:45-3:15-6:45-10:10

Hansel and Gretel: Met Opera Holiday Encore (STC) Thu 11

Hugo (PG) Sun 12:30 Mon-Thu 12:15 Hugo 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 1:15-4:30-7:20-10:15
The Magic Flute: Met Opera Holiday Encore (STC) Wed 11

day Encore (STC) Wed 11
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4-7:15-10:15
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (PG) No
Passes Fri 11-2-5-8-11 No Passes Sat 11-1:50-

4:40-7:30-10:20 No Passes Sun 2-5-8-11 No Passes Mon-Thu 11-2-5-8-11 **The Muppets** (G) Fri-Sat 11:50 Sun 1:30

New Year's Eve (PG) Fri 11:25-2:10-5:05-

7:55-10:40 Sat 11:25-2:10-5:05-7:55-10:30 Sun 2:10-5:05-7:55-10:40 Mon-Thu 11:25-2:10-

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shad-

ows (PG) No Passes Fri 11-12:50-1:45-3:50-4:45-7-7:45-9:55-10:45 No Passes Sat 11-12:50-1:45-3:50-4:45-7-7:45-9:55-10:30 No Passes Sun 12:50-1:45-3:50-4:45-7-7:45-9:55-10:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 11-12:50-1:45-3:50-

10.45 No Fasses mointing 11-12:50-1.45-3:50-4:45-77:45-9:55-10:45 The Sitter (14A) Fri-Thu 9:35 The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Sat 11:10-1:50-4:35-7:35-10:20 Sun-Thu 7:35-10:20

War Horse (PG) No Passes Sun-Thu 12:45-

We Bought a Zoo (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 10:55-1:40-4:35-7:30-10:30 No Passes Sun 1:40-4:35-7:30-10:30 No Passes Mon-Tue 10:55-1:40-4:35-7:30-10:30 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:40-4:35-7:30-10:30

Young Adult (14A) Fri 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:20-10:45 Sat 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:20-10:35 Sun-Thu 3:10-5:40-8:20-10:45

ORLEANS

ORLEANS TOWN CENTRE

6 CINEMAS 250 Centrum Blvd., 613-834-0666

EMPIRE THEATRES ORLEANS 6 CINEMAS

3752 Innes Rd., 613-830-4400

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 3:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 1:20

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 12:50-3:30-6:30-9:15 Dol-by Stereo Digital Sat 12:50-3:30-6:30 Dolby Stereo Digital San 6:20-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digi-tal Mon-Thu 4:10-7-9:45

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Digital, Dolby Stereo Dig-ital Fri-Sat 12-215-4:30-6:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 4:10-6:50 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 12-2:45-6:20

Arthur Christmas (G) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 12:40-3:15-6:50-9:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat 12:40-3:15-6:50 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 3:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 12:10-3:10

Les aventures de Tintin 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 12:15-3-6:15-9 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat 12:15-3-6:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 3 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 1:30-4:30 The Darkest Hour 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 7:30-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital

Mon-Thu 7:45-10

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo
(18A) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes
Fri 2-6:25-9:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital,
No Passes Sat 2-6:25 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital,
No Passes San 3:30-8 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital,
No Passes Mon-Thu 2-6:30-9:50

Happy Feet Two (PG) Digital, Dolby
Stereo Digital Fri-Sat 12:30 Digital, Dolby
Stereo Digital Fri-Sat 12:30 Digital, Dolby
Stereo Digital Sun 3:40 Digital, Dolby Stereo
Digital Mon-Thu 12:30

Digital Mon-Thu 12:30

New Year's Eve (PG) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 3:40-7:10-1030 New Year's Eve (PG) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat 3:40-7:10 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 7:20-10:10 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 3:20-6:45-9:40

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 1-4-7-9:50 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital. No Passes Sat 1-4-7 Digital. Dolby Stereo tal, No Passes Sat 1-4-7 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sun 4-7-10 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 1-4-7:30-10:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 12:20-3:20-6:20-9:10 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat 12:20-3:20-6:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sun 6:40-9:40 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon-

The Sitter (14A) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Fir 9:30 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sun-

War Horse (PG) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digi Holse (ro) Jugital, bothy Stereo Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 12:15-3:30-6:50-10:10

We Bought a Zoo (PG) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 12:10-3:10-6:35-9:40 Digital, Dolby

Dolby Stereo Digital Sat 12:10-3:10-6:35 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 3:20-6:15-9:10

Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 11:45-3-

KANATA

KANATA 24 801 Earl Grey Dr., 613-599-1200

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Special Engagement Fri 11:50-2:30-5-7:30-10 Special Engagement Sat 11:50-2:30-5-7:30 Special Engagement Sun-Thu 11:50-2:30-5-7:30-10

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Special Engagement Fri 10:35-1:05-3:45-6:30-9 Special Engagement Sat 10:35-1:05-3:45-6:30-5 Special Engagement Sun-Thu 10:35-1:05-3:45-6:30-9 The Adventures of Tintin: An IMAX

3D Experience (PG) Special Engagement Fri-Thu 11:05-2

Alvin and the Chipmunks:

Chipwrecked (G) Special Engagement Fri-Sun 7:15 Mon-Thu 7:15 Special Engagement Fri-Sun 7:15 Mon-Thu 11:10-11:50-1:35-2:15-4:10-4:40-6:30-7:15-9-9:45 Special Engage

#:10-4:40-6:30-7:15-9-9:45 Special Engage-ment Fri 11:10-11:50-1:35-2:15-4:10-4:40-6:30-7:15-9-9:45 Special Engagement Sat 11:10-11:50-1:35-2:15-4:10-4:40-6:30-7:15 Special

1.33-2.13-4.10-4,0-0.307-1.5 a pecula Engagement Sun 11:10-11:50-1:35-2:15-4:10-4:40-6:30-7:15-9-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:15 **Arthur Christmas** (G) Fri 11:40-2:05-4:30-7:35-10 Sat 11:40-2:05-4:30-7:35 Sun-

Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Special Engagement Fri 11:10-1:35-47-9:25 Special Engagement Sat 11:10-1:35-4-7 **The Darkest Hour** (PG) Special Engage-

ment Sun-Thu 12:50-5:20

The Darkest Hour 3D (PG) Special Engagement Sun-Thu 10:35-3:05
The Descendants (14A) Fri 10:45-1:25-4:05-6:50-9:40 Sat 10:45-1:25-4:05-6:50 Sun-

Thu 10:45-1:25-4:05-6:50-9:40 The Liv45-1:25-4:05-05:40-9:40

Don 2 (14A) Special Engagement Fri 11:20-2:35-7:05-10:20 Special Engagement Sat
11:20-2:35-7:05 Special Engagement Sun-Thu
11:20-2:35-7:05-10:20

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Special Engagement Fri 10:55-11:25-12:25-2:20-2:50-3:50-5:45-6:45-7:15-7:45-9:15-10:10-10:40 Special Engagement Sat 10:55-11:25-12:25-2:20-2:50-3:50-5:45-6:45-7:15 Special Engagement Sun-Thu 10:55-11:25-12:25-2:20-2:50-3:50-5:45-6:45-7:15-7: 45-9:15-10:10-10:40

Hugo (PG) Sun-Thu 10:45-1:40-4:30 Hugo 3D (PG) Special Engagement Fri 1:40-4:30 Special Engagement Sat 10:50-1:40-4:30

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Pro-tocol (PG) Special Engagement Fri 11:15-11:45-2:20-3:20-5:25-7-8:30-10:10 Special Engagement Sat 11:15-11:45-2:20-3:20-5:25-7 Special Engagement Sun-Thu 11:15-11:45-2:20-3:20-5:25-7-8:30-10:10

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (PG) Spe cial Engagement Fri 4:40-7:45-10:50 Special Engagement Sat 4:40-7:45 Special Engagement Sun-Thu 4:40-7:45-10:50

The Muppets (G) Fri-Thu 11:25-2:25-5 New Year's Eve (PG) Fri 10:30-1:15-4-6:55-9:45 Sat 10:30-1:15-4-6:55 Sun-Thu 10:30-1:15-4-6:55-9:45

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Special Engagement Fri 10:30-11-12:15-1:25-1:55-3-4:20-4:50-5;50-7:15-7:45-9: 10-10:10-10:40 Special Engagement Sat 10:30-11-12:15-1:25-1:55-3-4:20-4:50-5;50-7:15-7:45 Special Engagement Sun 10:30-11-1:25-1:55-4:20-4:50-5:50-7:15-7:45-9:10-10:1 10-10:40 Mon-Thu 10:30-11-1:25-1:55-4:20-4:50-5:50-7:15-7:45-9:10-10:10-10:40 The Sitter (14A) Fri 11:05-1:10-3:15-5:20-

7:30-9:35 Sat 11:05-1:10-3:15-5:20-7:30 Sun-

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri 7:30-10:20 Sat 7:30 Sun-Thu

7:30-10:20 **War Horse** (PG) Special Engagement Sun-Thu 11:50-3:15-6:30-9:50 Special Engage-

ment Sun-Ihu
10:50-11:10-2:15-2:45-5:30-6-8:45-9:10

We Bought a Zoo (PG) Special Engagement Fri 10:40-11:10-1:30-2-4:20-4:50-7:10-7:40-10-10:30 Special Engagement Sat
10:40-11:10-1:30-2-4:20-4:50-7:10-7:40 Special Engagement Sun-Thu 10:40-11:10-1:30-2-4:20-4:50-7:10-7:40 Special Engagement Sun-Thu 10:40-11:10-1:30-2-4:20-4:50-7:10-7:40-10-10:30

Young Adult (14A) Special Engagement Fri 11:45-2:10-4:55-7:20-9:55 Special Engage ment Sat 11:45-2:10-4:55-7:20 Special Engagement Sun-Thu 7:25-9:45

ADVERTISING FEATURE

RECYCLE FROG

(613) 695-1236

Selling old gold and silver jewelry? The bad. The ugly. The good.

Skyrocketing gold and silver prices has many consumers wondering how much their old or broken gold jewelry is

The question you should be asking yourself is: where do you go to ensure you receive a fair offer? There are plenty of options but which ones pass the common msense test?

Option #1: New companies. Inflated promises. False advertising.

Anyone can post really high payout prices. There are no laws to protect unsuspecting consumers from misleading ads that promise to pay outrageous and unrealistic prices.

They use them to lure people in, then adjust weights, inaccurately evaluate material (eg. say something is 10kt when it's actually 14kt). The bottom line, people end up with less money in their pocket, not more.

Option #2: Mail away your gold. Hope for the

Most consumers feel uneasy about mailing their jewellery to one of the many flashy "Cash for Gold" type companies seen



on TV. The truth is, several of these companies have received harsh criticism from consumer advocacy groups because of their notoriously shady sales tactics and low payouts.

So, if those ads featuring cash waving "customers" send a chill down your spine, it's for good reason.

Option #3: Recycle Frog. you be the judge.

Recycle Frog is an Ottawabased precious metals recycling company that has built its business by serving today's more prudent middle and upper-middle-class consumer. Comprised primarily of ex-Royal Canadian Mint employees, Recycle Frog's payout rates are published, and consistently rank among the highest in the industry.

One-on-one evaluations are conducted at their many convenient public events or are pre-scheduled at their World Exchange Plaza location. They're a trusted fundraising partner to various charitable organizations including the United Way, CHEO, Christmas Exchange and The Canadian Cancer Society.

Get a competitive, hagglefree offer for your old gold and silver by simply calling Recycle Frog at 613-695-1236 or visit their website at www. recyclefrog.com for more information.



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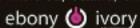
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OBSESSION - 1575 St. Laurent Blvd. & 1560 Triole St., Ottawa, Ontario





From backstage to front street

Once an after thought, now a Golden Globe nominee, Octavia Spencer wants to be beacon of hope for actors

After 15 years as a rankand-file actor, Octavia Spencer is stepping into Hollywood's gilded spotlight.

The 39-year-old actress was nominated for a Screen Actors Guild Award and a Golden Globe for her turn as sassy maid Minny Jackson in The Help.

Her co-stars Viola Davis and Jessica Chastain also earned acting nods from both groups, and the film is up for best picture at the Globes and best ensemble at the SAG Awards.

"The only word I can really use to describe this feeling is overwhelming," she said.

"It is overwhelming and wonderful."

Though Spencer said she tried not to "invest emotionally" in Holly-wood's awards process because "I just didn't want anything to diminish what we've all been able to accomplish," she was moved to tears by the SAG and Globes recognition.

"No matter what happens, the fact that we've had some stardust rain down on us over the past couple of days, it's just, it's pretty..." she paused, collected herself, "overwhelming."

She lauded director and screenwriter Tate Taylor, her longtime friend, and the cast mates she now considers family, including



▶ Both Octavia Spencer, pictured, and her castmate Jessica Chastain were nominated for a Golden Globe award for best supporting actress for their roles in the The Help.

Friends

How it got a little Help.

Relationship Tate Taylor was lifelong friends with author Kathryn Stockett and got the rights to the book before it was published, but with only one feature film to his credit, most studios refused to work with him. Finally, producer Chris Columbus signed on, then DreamWorks. The Help was a hit when it was released over the summer and has been showered with honours ever since.

Davis.

"I'm thrilled for Viola," she said. "I consider myself a rank-and-file actor who's been kicking the can around for 15 years. Viola is a trained Juilliard actress who has been doing stage and now the world is getting to see what she can do... I'm glad that she's having her moment and she deserves this moment."

Spencer's kicking the can has included numerous appearances in such TV series as Ugly Betty, Big Bang Theory, CSI, Just

Shoot Me! Chicago Hope and The X-Files, and in the feature films What Planet Are You From? Halloween II and The Sky is Falling. Upcoming features include Lost on Purpose, Smashed, The Trials and Tribulations of a Trailer Trash Housewife and Girls! Girls! Girls!

But The Help is by far her highest-profile project to date — and the result of love and perseverance, Spencer said, noting the novel was rejected 60 times before it became a bestseller.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHAT TO BUY WITH THE CHRISTMAS MONEY

SOUND CHECK



ALAN CROSS SCENE @METRONEWS.CA

With two days to go, what do you get the music fan on your list?

et's assume for a second that there will be some envelopes under the tree Christmas morning. You could do the responsible thing and apply whatever cash you get to the post-Christmas debts - remember that CPP takes its annual chunk out of your paycheque as of January 1! — or use it for an RRSP contribution.

But let's be honest: you're going to do neither.

Instead, you'll contribute to the retail economy by recycling that cash on things that...well, things that you think you need but really don't. In fact, no one actually needs any of these things.

The Drum Machine T-Shirt (\$30)

You might have heard about those t-shirts that allow you to strum rudimentary chords when you pass your ĥanď across the front. This is just the next

able instruments. The iHorn (\$540)

logical step in wear-

Inspired by the acoustic principles used in old-school gramophone horns, these things may require rearranging the

too big already.
The Speaker Vest (\$850) furniture, but if these things are even on your radar, chances are vou've already got a

▶ The Drum Machine T-Shirt

If you thought the guy on the bus lisplace that's tening

music at high volume through leaky headphones was annoying, just wait until you meet up with someone using one of these. The good news is that the low

frequencies coming from the subwoofer will probably stop his heart. Sex Pistols' **God Save** the Queen 7-inch on A&M (\$16,200)

A mint

copy of one of the precious few copies rescued from the A&M warehouse after the band was dropped after just five days recently went up for sale through the collectors' site,

iNuke (\$30,000)

If the iHorn is too weenie for you, then you need to step up to this 700-pound, 10,000-watt iPhone/iPod speaker dock. No, none of the numbers in the preceding is a typo.

A Street-Legal Race Car Inspired by a Bjork Video (\$125,000)

Lest you think that Biork can't live down that swan dress, take a look at the BAC Mono, a singleseat street-legal track. This thing wouldn't exist had its designers not been inspired by the video for Bjork's All Is Full of Love.

And although all 50 copies for 2011 have been sold out, the manufacture can promise delivery for 2013. Perhaps you should put that Christmas money aside after all.

ALAN IS THE HOST OF THE RADIO SHOW THE SECRET HISTORY OF ROCK, REACH HIM AT ALAN@ALANCROSS.CA





Just because he wears lots of eyeliner...

• Adam Lambert gets into a gay bar brawl in Helsinki

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON SCENE@METRONEWS CA



Well, this is awesome: Former American Idol star Adam Lambert was arrested and briefly jailed in Finland after reportedly

getting into a gay bar brawl with his boyfriend, Finnish Big Brother star Sauli Koskinen, according to the Hollywood Re-

Lambert is in Helsinki to spend Christmas with Koskinen's family, and the couple was out drinking with Finnish beauty queen and ex-Miss Helsinki Sofia Ruusila when an argument between the two men turned violent, causing them to be kicked out of the bar.

Their fight continued in the street, where Lambert reportedly hit Ruusila by mistake, she told a Finnish entertainment channel. Lambert and Koskinen were arrested and questioned for sever-



al hours before being released Thursday after-

Finnish beauty queens, gay bar fights, jail time and here you thought vou'd have an interesting Christmas break if your mother had two glasses of wine instead of her usual one. Adam Lambert for

Is Jamie Bell looking for a ring?

The rekindled romance must be working, because Jamie Bell and Evan Rachel Wood are reportedly thinking about mar-

'They have been shopping for rings for at least a month," a source tells Us Weekly.

Kutcher moves on

Ashton Kutcher is apparently making the most of his newly single status, as the Two and a Half Men star was spotted hanging out with three young women in Berlin this week, where he's reportedly researching a new business venture, according to Hollyscoop.

Kutcher and the three women were spotted get-ting into his chauffeur-driven car together, though he was later seen heading into an apartment with just one of them, a brunette.





And the two certainly aren't afraid of commitment, as they reportedly got matching tattoos during their initial courtship in 2006.

Evan and Jamie were really young and just getting going in their careers when they first met and they just weren't ready," another source tells Radar Online.

"Now that they are older and both excelling in their professional lives, I think they feel ready to take their relationship to the next level."

Celebrity tweets



role I need to speak Chinese! Curious?



Tweeter in your life? Make a book of their Tweets

@CarrieFFisher

ľm watching a really relaxing 20-hour show called The Killing. I've been watching it for 3 days. I

only have a few days left. It's a Danish show. I should be fluent by Friday. I FEEL fluent. Bloated & fluent.



Kim Jung Un has some small shoes

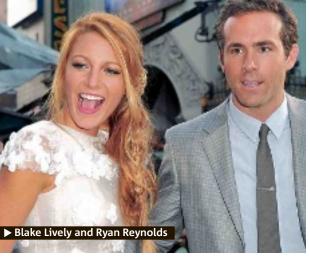


Ryan and Blake hit Vancouver for family time

Ryan Reynolds treated Blake Lively to some preholiday family time while the couple were in Vancouver this week, according to Us Weekly.

After shopping for toys and cupcakes earlier in the

the pair Reynolds' mother brother for dinner at Tojos restaurant. Sources who spotted Lively and Reynolds around town say they were "really friendly" but kept to themselves. • METRO



No Xmas TV at Beyoncé's house

Beyoncé says she and Jay-Z are looking forward to enjoying the holidays free from the glare of television.

"I will be with family. We are both so busy throughout the year that Christmas is just a time to relax with family and count the many

blessings in your life," the pregnant pop star says, according to Contact Music.

"Christmas Day is a no-TV zone. We just like to sit and talk together as a fami-

She also admits that being expectant parents will likely have an effect on the gifts they buy each other: "We both keep seeing super-cute stuff for the baby, so I am sure even our presents for each other will involve the baby in some way," she says.



Tenderloin Tip



The cut of meat in this recipe is very important. When you head to the meat counter, be sure to specify that you want a centre-cut tenderloin. This will ensure that you don't get a roast that contains several pieces of tenderloin pressed together.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



keep food healthy and safe during the festive season

Perfect turkey supporters



As sure as the Grinch stole Christmas, it's a given that we'll all receive at least one bottle of wine as a gift from a co-worker, guest or neighbour over the holiday season.

In my house, I pick the wines that go with Xmas dinner so — while much appreciated — anything that shows up at the door goes into the wine rack for future enjoyment.

Of course, considering how my family can plow through my wine selection, it would be nice if more of the freebies came with a roast turkey match in mind.

For reds, bring a plump New World pinot noir from California or Canada, a chocolaty old vines zinfandel (also from Cali.) or, for a slightly unconventional Old World partner, a Crianza or Reserva from Spain's Rioja region.

On the white side, think a not so oaky chardonnay from Australia or Chile, a German riesling or a rich, multi-blend like the ripe, refreshing cornucopia of grape flavours (five in all) that is California's Caymus 2009 Conundrum (\$23.95 - \$29.99).

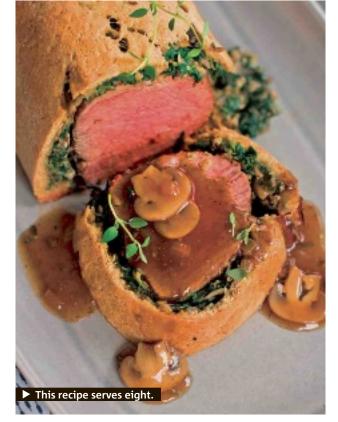
Happy holidays! PRICES REFLECT
THE RANGE ACROSS
CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Happy healthy holidays

This Beef Wellington contains just 11 grams of fat and 328 calories

Preparation:

- Heat oven to 190 C (375 F). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Season beef liberally with salt and pepper.
- In sauté pan over medium-high, heat olive oil. When oil just smoking, add beef. Brown on all sides, 1 to 2 minutes per side. Once browned, remove beef and place on a rack to rest.
- Add garlic to hot pan and cook until lightly browned, 20 seconds. Add mushrooms and onion and cook until soft and tender and all liquid has evaporated, 10 mins. Season with salt and pepper and add 10 ml (2 tsp) of the thyme.
- Set aside 50 ml (1/4 cup) of mushroom-onion mix. Transfer rest to food processor and pulse to roughly chop until reduced to 5-mm (1/4-inch) pieces. Transfer to bowl and refrigerate 5 mins. Once slightly cooled, add spinach and egg whites and mix well.
- In bowl, stir pancake mix with just enough water, about 75 ml (1/3 cup), to moisten and make dough that holds together but is not sticky. On lightly floured surface, roll dough to a thin rectangle that is 5 cm (2 inches) longer than the beef roast. Place beef on dough. Spoon spinach and mushroom mix on



top and sides of beef and pat down tightly. Fold dough up and over top of beef and spinach and crimp seams together.

- Place meat, seam side down, on baking sheet.
 Cut slits in top to vent.
 Bake 40 mins. or until centre registers 60 C (140 F). Remove from oven, cover with foil and let rest for 10 minutes.
- Meanwhile, place 2 of porcini chunks in a spice grinder and grind to fine powder. Place mushroom powder, remaining

whole porcini mushroom chunks and shredded jerky in a microwave-safe bowl with 500 ml (2 cups) of water. Microwave high until water is simmering. Let sit for 5 minutes and repeat.

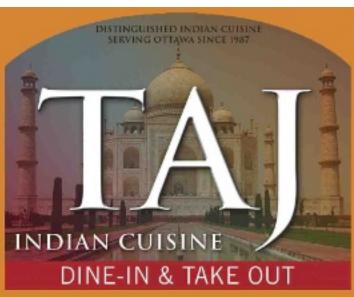
Pour Madeira into small saucepan over medium heat. Bring to boil and boil 5 mins. or until reduced by half. Pour dried mushroom and beef broth through fine mesh strainer into Madeira while pushing on jerky and mushrooms to extract as much liquid

Ingredients:

- 900 g (32 oz) beef tenderloin, centre cut, trimmed of all visible fat
- Salt and black pepper
- 7 ml (1/2 tbsp) olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 285 g (10 oz) button mushrooms, sliced
- 250 ml (1 cup) diced onion
- 12 ml (2 1/2 tsp) thyme
- 1 pkg (284 g/10 oz) frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed dry
- 2 egg whites, beaten
 400 ml (1 2/3 cups)
 Bisquick Heart Smart Pancake and Baking Mix
- 5 chunks dried porcini mushrooms
- 22 ml (3/4 oz) beef jerky, finely shredded
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) Madeira
- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) arrowroot powder
- 10 ml (2 tsp) soy sauce

as possible. Remove whole pieces of porcini mushrooms and roughly chop; set aside. Discard jerky. Bring broth and Madeira mix to a boil.

In bowl, combine arrowroot and 60 ml (4 tbsp) cold water. Mix and add to simmering sauce. Cook and stir 1 min or until sauce thickens. Add sov sauce, remaining thyme, reserved porcini and reserved mushroom and onion mix. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Slice roast into 8 even slices and arrange on a platter. Serve with sauce. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ROCCO DISPIRITO







Candy Cane Tarts

Walking in a sweet treat wonderland

○ Looking for a new holiday gift idea? **○** Make this Almond Bark to share with family and friends **○** Give Candy Canes new meaning in tasty tarts



Preparation:

Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C) and grease a large baking sheet. Set aside. In a separate large baking pan, spread almonds and toast for 8 minutes or until slightly brown. Let cool.

2 In heavy saucepan bring butter, sugar, water,

vanilla, and salt to a boil over medium heat, stirring with a wooden spoon. Boil mixture, without stirring, 12 mins. or until deep golden.

Remove pan from heat and stir in 2 cups (500 mL) of toasted almonds. Immediately pour onto greased baking sheet. Spread evenly and then refrigerate until set.

In bowl, set over saucepan of hot water, melt bittersweet and semi sweet chocolates until smooth.

Pour chocolate over cooled almond toffee and spread evenly with

an offset spatula. Sprinkle top with remaining almonds. If desired, drizzle top with melted milk chocolate or white chocolate for contrast. Chill uncovered for about 1 hour or until set.

Break toffee into pieces.
Keep layered between sheets of parchment paper in an airtight container at cool room temperature or refrigerated for 1 week.
NEWS CANADA/ ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA/ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS(PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

Ingredients:

- 4 cups (1 L) sliced almonds
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup (60 mL) water
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) vanilla
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) salt
- 1 lb (454 g) high-quality bittersweet chocolate, chopped
- 8 oz (227 g) high-quality semi-sweet chocolate, chopped
- 3 oz. (90 g) milk or white chocolate, melted (optional)

Candy cane tarts will thrill the children this festive season.

The pretty little morsels of pastry are filled with chocolate pudding and topped with crushed candy canes or mint candy.

Preparation:

- 1 Prepare tart shells according to package directions for unfilled tart shells. Set aside to cool. Whip topping according to package directions and set aside.
- In a medium bowl, combine instant chocolate pudding and milk. Beat using an electric mixer until

Ingredients:

- 12 frozen tart shells
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) whipped topping

- thickened, 2 to 4 minutes.
- Place half of the prepared pudding in a separate medium bowl and fold in 2/3 of the whipped topping. Divide plain pudding mixture evenly among cooled tart shells. Top with pudding-whipped topping mixture.
- Refrigerate filled tarts and remaining whipped topping for at least 2 hours. Serve topped with a dollop of remaining whipped topping and sprinkle with crushed candy canes. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ TENDERFLAKE
- 1 pkg (250 g/8 oz) instant chocolate pudding
 - 250 ml (1 cup) milk
 - 50 ml (1/4 cup) crushed candy canes or mint candy





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Senators preview

Ottawa at Carolina, 7 p.m. TV: SNET



Ottawa (17-14-4) plays the Hurricanes (10-19-6) in its second game in two nights. With leading scorer Jeff Skinner (concussion) out since Dec. 7, the Hurricanes need more from Eric Staal, who hasn't scored in six games and has two assists and a minus-4 rating in the five games Skinner has missed so far. Cam Ward allowed four goals on 19 shots in Wednesday's loss to Phoenix, the fourth time in eight starts this month he's allowed four or more aoals. THE CANADIAN PRESS





Butler the hero for Senators in OT

• Forward gets puck past Panthers goalie to give Ottawa third win in row

Bobby Butler scored 2:02 into overtime Thursday night as the Ottawa Senators defeated the Florida Panthers 4-3.

Daniel Alfredsson scored and added two assists for the Senators (17-14-4), while Erik Karlsson and Chris Neil both had a goal and an assist. Craig Anderson had a 32-save performance for Ottawa's third straight win.

Tomas Kopecky scored with just over a minute left in the third period to force overtime for the Panthers (18-11-6), who have now lost two straight games. Michal Repik and Shawn Matthias also scored. Scott Clemmensen turned aside



21 shots in the loss.

The goals came in quick fashion in the third as Karlsson scored just 38 seconds after Matthias had tied the game at 2-2 for the Panthers. That goal came just a minute and 27 seconds after Alfredsson scored a power-play goal to give the Senators the lead.

The reason the teams were tied heading into the final period had as much to do with Erik Condra as it did with the goal scorers.

Late in the second period, as he battled at the side of the Senators' net, Condra had good timing as he turned just in time to see the puck sliding toward the goal line behind Anderson.

Condra managed to swipe the puck away as it was less than a puck's length away from giving the Panthers a 2-1 lead.

Earlier in the period, Repik tied the game for the Panthers as Ottawa's Butler sat in the penalty box in place of Nick Foligno, who was in the dressing room serving a five-minute major and game misconduct for charging.

Foligno turned his back to Keaton Ellerby and left his feet to hit the defenceman as he was coming around the net. Ellerby returned to the game after about a six-minute absence.

Neil opened the scoring early in the first period on a Senators power play as he tipped a point shot from Karlsson down and past Clemmensen.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

World junior gold 'earned, not given'

Canada is again a contender for gold at the world junior hockey championship, but the host country will have to fight off stiff challenges from the United States, Russia and Sweden.

Canada opens the 2012 world junior tournament Sunday in Edmonton against Finland, a dark horse in the race for gold.

Canadian teams have reached the final of this tournament every year for the last decade and won half of them. Fair or not, Canadians have come to depend on seeing their country in the championship game.

So the biggest challenge Canada's 2012 edition faces is avoiding a sense of entitlement in this tournament.

On the back of the players' T-shirts during selection camp in Calgary earlier this month was the slogan "earned, not given."

"There's no rule that we deserve gold every year," Canadian head coach Don Hay said. "Other countries want it too and there's other countries that believe they play the right way."

After a run of five straight gold, Canada lost in overtime to the U.S. in the 2010 final in Saskatoon and spectacularly collapsed in the 2011 final in Buffalo, N.Y., when Russia scored five unanswered goals in the third period to win 5-3.

But to call Canada's campaign this year "redemption" is unfair because 18 of the 22 players on this year's team did not play in Buffalo. That label could perhaps be applied to goaltender Mark Visentin, who was in net against Russia. THE CANADIAN PRESS



"It's really good because we have a fresh start, a clean slate and pretty much a whole new team."

GOALTENDER MARK VISENTIN

Schwartz moving past the pain

• Canadian captain focused on gold after missing majority of 2011 WJC and losing sister to leukemia shortly after

Jaden Schwartz played through pain at last year's world junior hockey championship, before having to watch from the sidelines.

This time, the 19-yearold from Wilcox, Sask., will look to set the tone throughout the tournament as Canadian captain.

Schwartz is one of four players on this year's team that had to settle for silver at the 2011 world junior tournament in Buffalo, N.Y.

But Schwartz wasn't able to finish that tournament. He fractured his left ankle during Canada's second game, yet still had a goal and two assists in a 7-2 win over the Czech Republic.

Schwartz didn't play another game after that though, and watched the gold-medal game from the sidelines. Canada led 3-0

"You try to forget last year, but at the same time you want to learn from it."

JADEN SCHWARTZ ON LAST YEAR'S LOSS TO RUSSIA

heading into the third period, but Russia exploded for five goals to take the title.

"Last year was tough, obviously getting hurt and then that third period against Russia," Schwartz said.

"This year is a whole new group of guys, new faces, new team and everything like that. There's enough motivation just being here. We're all here to win gold and that's the bottom line."

The St. Louis Blues prospect seems older than



19, perhaps because he has a perspective on life that his teammates don't.

His sister Mandi, a hockey player at Yale, died April 3 of leukemia at the age of 23. She was fighting for her life in Wilcox while Schwartz was with the Canadian team in Buffalo. When Schwartz arrived at the Regina airport after the tournament, Mandi was there to meet him and Schwartz hung his silver medal around her neck.

"She was pretty sick at that time," Schwartz said.

"It was the hardest thing I had to go through and probably one of the hardest things I'll ever go through. It's very difficult, but family and friends get you through times like that and thankfully they're always there for me."

Goaltender Mark Visentin says Schwartz is an ideal captain.

"I think he's a tremendous leader and he's definitely a person I look up to," the goalie said.

Schwartz, five foot 10 and 190 pounds, was a first-round pick (14th overall) of the St. Louis Blues in 2010.

He and his brother Rylan, 22, both play NCAA hockey at Colorado College.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE													
		GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GΑ	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
	d-Philadelphia	33	21	8	2	2	116	95	46	8-5-1-1	13-3-1-1	8-1-0-1	W1
	d-Boston	32	22	9	0	1	111	63	45	12-6-0-1	10-3-0-0	8-2-0-0	W5
	d-Florida	34	18	10	2	4	91	86	42	8-3-1-4	10-7-1-0	5-3-1-1	L1
	NY Rangers	31	19	8	1	3	91	68	42	8-3-0-2	11-5-1-1	6-3-0-1	W2
	Pittsburgh	34	19	11	2	2	110	90	42	10-4-2-0	9-7-0-2	5-5-0-0	W2
	New Jersey	33	18	14	0	1	91	96	37	7-6-0-1	11-8-0-0	6-4-0-0	L1
	Toronto	33	16	13	2	2	102	108	36	7-5-2-2	9-8-0-0	3-5-2-0	L3
	Ottawa	34	16	14	2	2	106	117	36	9-7-0-1	7-7-2-1	4-4-1-1	W2
	Washington	32	17	14	0	1	95	97	35	11-5-0-1	6-9-0-0	5-5-0-0	W1
	Buffalo	33	16	14	2	1	90	98	35	8-9-2-1	8-5-0-0	3-5-2-0	L2
	Winnipeg	33	15	13	3	2	91	100	35	11-5-0-1	4-8-3-1	6-3-0-1	L1
	Montreal	35	13	15	2	5	88	97	33	5-7-2-4	8-8-0-1	3-4-0-3	L4
	Tampa Bay	33	14	17	0	2	89	114	30	8-5-0-0	6-12-0-2	3-7-0-0	L1
	NY Islanders	31	11	14	4	2	72	99	28	6-8-3-0	5-6-1-2	5-3-2-1	W2
	Carolina	35	10	19	4	2	89	120	26	6-10-0-2	4-9-4-0	2-6-2-0	L2
	WESTERNICON		SEN	CE									

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GΑ	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Chicago	35	22	9	1	3	118	102	48	12-2-0-3	10-7-1-0	8-1-0-1	W1
d-Minnesota	35	20	10	2	3	85	78	45	10-4-1-2	10-6-1-1	5-3-0-2	L5
d-San Jose	31	18	10	2	1	93	76	39	11-6-1-0	7-4-1-1	5-3-1-1	W3
Vancouver	34	21	11	0	2	114	82	44	10-4-0-1	11-7-0-1	7-2-0-1	W3
Detroit	33	21	11	1	0	109	75	43	13-2-1-0	8-9-0-0	6-4-0-0	L1
St. Louis	33	19	10	0	4	84	72	42	13-3-0-1	6-7-0-3	6-2-0-2	L1
Dallas	33	19	13	0	1	86	93	39	10-5-0-1	9-8-0-0	6-4-0-0	L1
Phoenix	34	18	13	1	2	90	89	39	7-7-1-1	11-6-0-1	5-5-0-0	W2
Nashville	33	17	12	3	1	86	88	38	8-5-2-1	9-7-1-0	6-4-0-0	L1
Colorado	35	17	17	1	0	94	104	35	11-9-0-0	6-8-1-0	6-4-0-0	W3
Los Angeles	33	15	14	2	2	72	81	34	8-9-0-1	7-5-2-1	4-6-0-0	W1
Calgary	34	15	15	2	2	84	95	34	9-5-1-1	6-10-1-1	5-3-1-1	W1
Edmonton	33	14	16	0	3	89	90	31	9-6-0-2	5-10-0-1	2-7-0-1	L4
Anaheim	33	9	19	2	3	78	110	23	7-9-1-0	2-10-1-3	3-6-1-0	L3
Columbus	33	9	20	1	3	80	111	22	6-10-1-1	3-10-0-2	3-6-1-0	L3

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootor receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results Buffalo at Toronto N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers Florida at Ottawa Columbus at Nashville Montreal at Winningg Minnesota at Edmontor **Detroit at Calgary** Anaheim at Los Angeles Wednesday's results Vancouver 4 Detroit 2 Chicago 5 Montreal 1 Colorado 3 St. Louis 2 Phoenix 4 Carolina 3 San Jose 7 Tampa Bay 2

Tonight's games Florida at Boston, 7 p.m.

Washington at New Jersey, 7 p.m. Toronto at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m. Philadelphia at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m. Ottawa at Carolina, 7 n.m. Pittsburgh at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m. Nashville at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Tampa Bay at Colorado, 9 p.m. St. Louis at Phoenix, 9 p.m. Calgary at Vancouver, 10 p.m Los Angeles at San Jose, 10:30 p.m. Doc 24-25

Holiday Break No Games Scheduled.

LATE WEDNESDAY CANUCKS 4, WINGS 2

First Period

1. Vancouver, Higgins 10 (Raymond, Bieksa) 2. Vancouver, Hodgson 7 (Hansen, Malhotra)

3. Detroit, Bertuzzi 4 (White, Datsyuk) 13:46 4. Vancouver, Burrows 13 (D.Sedin, H.Sedin)

15:40 **Penalties** — None. Second Period

5. Detroit, Miller 7 (Helm, Cleary) 16:20 **Penalty** — Bieksa Vcr (hooking) 18:36. Third Period

6. Vancouver, Edler 6 (Hansen) 3:30 (sh) **Penalties** — Kesler Vcr (roughing) 3:15, Higgins Vcr (delay-of-game) 6:38, D. Sedin Vcr (tripping) 19:11.

Detroit 8 16 16 4
Vancouver 9 12 4 2
Goal (shots-saves) — Detroit: Howard (L,20-8-1) (25-21); Vancouver: Luongo (W,14-6-2) (40-38). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — De-

Referees - Marc Joanette, Tom Kowal, Lines**en** — Brian Mach, Mark Whel Att. — 18,860 at Vancouver.

SHARKS 7, LIGHTNING 2

troit: 0-4; Vancouver: 0-0.

First Period

1. San Jose, Ferriero 2 (Thornton, Boyle) 3:26 2. San Jose, Pavelski 14 (Burns, Thornton) 4:51 (pp)

3. San Jose, Desiardins 3 (A.Murray) 6:21 4. San Jose, Couture 13 (Marleau, Clo 13:13

5. San Jose, Couture 14 (Handzus, Clowe)

Penalties — Mitchell SJ (holding) 0:36, Bergeron TB (tripping) 4:26, D.Moore TB (board-

Second Period

No Scoring. **Penalties** — Vlasic SJ (tripping) 10:35, Clowe SJ (interference) 15:05, Jones TB (high-stick-

ina) 18:21.

Third Period
7. San Jose, Burns 6 (Handzus) 1:15 8. Tampa Bay, St. Louis 10 (Purcell) 7:45

9. San Jose, Marleau 13, 12:41 **Penalties** — Downie TB (elbowing) 2:21, Handzus SJ (double high-sticking) 2:24. Shots

Goal (shots-saves) — Tampa Bay: Garon (L,8-9-1)(8-5), Roloson (6:21 first)(35-31); San Jose: Niemi (W,14-6-3). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Tampa Bay: 0-5; San Jose: 2-4.

Referees - Dave Jackson, Brad Meier. Linesmen — Vaughan Rody, Jay Sharrers. Att. — 17,562 (17,562) at San Jose, Calif.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	Α	PT
Giroux, Pha	17	26	43
H.Sedin, Vcr	9	31	40
Kessel, Tor	19	20	39
Malkin, Pgh	15	24	39
D.Sedin, Vcr	13	26	39
Hossa, Chi	15	23	38
Stamkos, TB	20	17	37
Toews, Chi	20	17	37
Spezza, Ott	12	25	37
Sharp, Chi	18	18	36
Lupul, Tor	15	21	36
Vanek, Buf	17	18	35
Versteeg, Fla	16	19	35
Selanne, Ana	11	24	35
Pominville, Buf	10	25	35
Eberle, Edm	13	21	34
Nugent-Hopkins, Edm	13	21	34
Backstrom, Wash	12	22	34
Datsyuk, Det	10	24	34
P.Kane, Chi	9	25	34
Neal, Pgh	19	14	33
	12	20	32
Ra.Whitney, Phx Weiss, Fla	11	21	32
Hartnell, Pha	16	15	31
	3	28	31
Karlsson, Ott	19	28 11	30
Gaborik, NYR	14	16	30
Franzen, Det	12		
Fleischmann, Fla	10	18 20	30 30
Kopitar, LA		13	
Vrbata, Phx	16		29
Perry, Ana	14	15	29
Seguin, Bos	14	15	29
Elias, NJ	13	16	29
Jagr, Pha	11	18	29
Benn, Dal	8	21	29
Eriksson, Dal	11	17	28
O.Jokinen, Cal	11	17	28
M.Koivu, Minn	8	20	28
Thornton, SJ	6	22	28
Smyth, Edm	12	15	27
Parise, NJ	11	16	27
Plekanec, Mtl	7	20	27
Pavelski, SJ	14	12	26
Iginla, Cal	13	13	26
B.Richards, NYR	12	14	26
Filppula, Det	10	16	26
Tavares, NYI	10	16	26
Prospal, Clb	7	19	26
Campbell, Fla	3	23	26
Michalek, Ott	19	6	25
E.Kane, Wpg	15	10	25
Not including last night's g	ames		

HOCKEY

2012 WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

All Times Eastern

EXHBITION SCHEDULE

Last night's results At Red Deer, Alta. Canada vs. Switzerland At Brooks, Alta. Latvia vs. Denmark

At Lethbridge, Alta.

Russia vs. Czech Republic Tonight's games anada vs. Sweden, 9:30 p.m. At Three Hills, Alta. U.S. vs. Slovakia, 9 p.m.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Monday, Dec. 26 At Edmonton Canada vs. Finland, 3:30 p.m. Canada vs. Filliand, 3:30 p.m.
U.S. vs. Demmark, 8 p.m.

At Calgary
Sweden vs. Latvia, 5:30 p.m.
Russia vs. Switzerland, 10 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 27

At Edmonton
December Cook Depublic for

Denmark vs. Czech Republic, 8 p.m.

At Calgary
Latvia vs. Slovakia, 10 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 28
At Edmonton
Finland vs. U.S., 3:30 p.m.

Czech Republic vs. Canada, 8 p.m. At Calgary
Switzerland vs. Sweden, 5:30 p.m.
Slovakia vs. Russia, 10 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 29

Canada vs. Denmark, 8 p.m. At Calgary Russia vs. Latvia, 10 p.m.

ACTIVITY

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

MINNESOTA TWINS—Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Marquis on a one-year contract. TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Named John Tamargo Jr. manager of Lansing (MWL): Mike Redmond manager of Dunedin (FSL) and Clayton McCullough manager of Vancouver (NWL). National

NEW YORK METS—Agreed to terms with C

NEW JERSEY NETS—Waived F Stephen Gra-

NFL

NFL—Fined New York Jets LB Calvin Pace \$15,000 for an illegal hit on Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Michael Vick in a Dec. 18

NHL—Suspended Pittsburgh D Deryk Engelland three games for an illegal check to the head of Chicago F Marcus Kruger during a Dec.

SOCCER

ENGLAND

PREMIER LEAGUE

Yesterday's resultsTottenham 1 Chelsea 1

SPAIN

COPA DEL REY

Yesterday's results Fourth Round Second Leg

Valencia 4, Cadiz 0 (Valencia advances 4-0 on Barcelona 9, Hospitalet 0 (Barcelona advances

FOOTBALL

10-0 on aggregate)

U.S. COLLEGE BOWL GLANCE

All Times ET Last night's result MAACO BOWL At Las Vegas

Boise State vs. Arizona State
Tomorrow's game

HAWAII BOWL

Nevada (7-5) vs. Southern Mississippi (11-2),

INDEPENDENCE BOWL

At Shreveport, La.
North Carolina (7-5) vs. Missouri (7-5), 5 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 27
LITTLE CAESARS PIZZA BOWL

At Detroit Western Michigan (7-5) vs. Purdue (6-6), 4:30

At Charlotte, N.C.

North Carolina State (7-5) vs. Louisville (7-5), 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 28 MILITARY BOWL

At Washington
Air Force (7-5) vs. Toledo (8-4), 4:30 p.m. **HOLIDAY BOWL**

At San Diego Texas (7-5) vs. California (7-5), 8 p.m.

NBA

PRE-SEASON

Last night's results Charlotte at Atlanta Denver at Phoenix Wednesday's results

No games scheduled

Orlando 104 Miami 100 Boston 81 Toronto 73 New York 88 New Jersey 82 New Orleans 95 Memphis 80 Minnesota 85 Milwaukee 84 San Antonio 97 Houston 95 Utah 92 Portland 89 L.A. Clippers 108 L.A. Lakers 103 Tonight's games

NFL

WEEK 16

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

y-New England N.Y. Jets Miami Buffalo	W 11 8 5	L 3 6 9	T 0 0 0	Pct .786 .571 .357 .357	PF 437 346 286 311	PA 297 315 269 371
SOUTH						
y-Houston Tennessee Jacksonville Indianapolis	W 10 7 4 1	4 7 10 13	T 0 0 0	Pct .714 .500 .286 .071	PF 343 279 207 211	PA 236 278 293 395
NORTH						
x-Baltimore x-Pittsburgh Cincinnati Cleveland	W 10 10 8 4	4 4 6 10	T 0 0 0 0 0	Pct .714 .714 .571 .286	PF 334 285 305 195	PA 236 218 283 274
WEST						
Denver Oakland San Diego Kansas City	W 8 7 7 6	L 6 7 7 8	T 0 0 0 0	Pct .571 .500 .500 .429	PF 292 317 358 192	PA 343 382 313 319

Oakland	7	7	0	.500	317	38
San Diego	7	7	0	.500	358	31
Kansas City	6	8	0	.429	192	31
NATIONAL	rn	NFI	FRE			
	CO		LIVE	ITCL		
EAST						
5.11	W	Ļ	T	Pct	PF	P/
Dallas N.Y. Giants	8 7	6 7	0	.571 .500	348 334	29
Philadelphia	6	8	0	.429	342	37. 31
Washington	5	9	0	.357	252	30
SOUTH						
	W	L	Т	Pct	PF	P
x-New Orleans	11	3	0	.786	457	30
Atlanta	9	5	0	.643	341	28
Carolina	5	9	0	.357	341	36
Tampa Bay	4	10	0	.286	247	40
NORTH						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	P
y-Green Bay	13	1	0	.929	480	29
Detroit	9	5	0	.643	395	33
Chicago	7	7	0	.500	315	29
Minnesota	2	12	0	.143	294	40
WEST						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	P
y-San Francisco	11	3	0	.786	327	18
Seattle	7	7	0	.500	284	27
Arizona	7	7	0	.500	273	30
St. Louis x-clinched playo	2	12	0	.143	166	34
Last night's res		iot; y	-ciin	cried (I	1012101	1
Houston at India		nlic				
Townson at make	mah	0113				

Tomorrow's games All Times Eastern Oakland at Kansas City, 1 p.m.

Jacksonville at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Denver at Buffalo, 1 p.m. Tampa Bay at Carolina, 1 p.m. Minnesota at Washington, 1 p.m. Cleveland at Baltimore, 1 p.m. Miami at New England, 1 p.m. N.Y. Giants at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m. Arizona at Cincinnati, 1 p.m. San Diego at Detroit, 4:05 p.m. San Francisco at Seattle, 4:15 p.m. Philadelphia at Dallas, 4:15 p.m. **Sunday's game** Chicago at Green Bay, 8:20 p.m.

Monday's game
Atlanta at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m.

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All they want for Christmas ...

• Packers receivers need to regain their form against the Bears to clinch home-field advantage in the playoffs

In theory, the Green Bay Packers' group of receivers is deep and talented enough to make up for the loss of one player — even one as good as Greg Jennings.

It just didn't look that way in Sunday's loss at Kansas City.

Tight end Jermichael Finley dropped passes, and he wasn't the only player who struggled to hold onto the ball. Jordy Nelson was relatively quiet after a couple of head-scratching offensive pass interference calls went against him. And when Aaron Rodgers needed to make big plays at the end of the game, nobody was open.

"We have to be on top of



our game, and we weren't in Kansas City," Nelson said. "That's all that matters."

Jennings sprained his left knee in the Packers' Dec. 11 victory over Oakland, and is not likely to return until the playoffs. He made a brief appearance in the lockerroom Thursday and appeared to be walking without difficulty, making a couple of moves to avoid reporters. The Packers have a chance to wrap up home-field advantage in the NFC with a victory over Chicago on Sunday night, but they'll likely need a better performance from their re-

ceivers to beat the Bears.

Rodgers acknowledged the offence was out of rhythm against the Chiefs.

"I think it's us not executing and making the plays we expect to make and them playing good defence," Rodgers said. "So all offences are aided by a good rhythm, keeping drives going, converting on third downs, being good in the red zone. We just didn't do those things on Sunday and they controlled the football, controlled the clock, and the urgency just wasn't there when we were on offence and we didn't make the plays."

Finley said concentration is especially important

when playing with a quarterback who throws as hard as Rodgers.

"We don't (have) a guy that's tossing the ball," Finley said. "We have a guy throwing the ball like a baseball, so you have to focus hard."

Finley did have three touchdowns in the Packers' Sept. 25 victory at Chicago, but he expects the Bears to adjust the way they cover him on Sunday.

"I would think they've seen film of guys putting their hands on me, getting manned up and getting me off my route," Finley said. "I wouldn't doubt they'll do the same."

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PERSONALS

Missed Connections

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO SCARLETT NATALIE POOLE (ROO)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spiritual

A Praver About Colour and Race

Dear Lord, We are all Your people, Your children and we are made in Your image and likeness and we are black or brown, yellow or white. Why don't we live in Your image and likeness? We are the colours that blend into the rainbow of life with the colours of the mountains and the hills, the rivers and the sea and all beautiful things. Why then do we smudge and spoil the archway of life's rainbow by hating and fighting and speaking ill of each other? Why can't we keep God's rainbow perfect in unity, friendship and love for only then will we find the promise that a rainbow brings, the promise of

rainbow Drings, eternal life. Dear Lord, help us to live in unity and peace and to love one another - Rosa George

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metr@play

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35

38

48

32 33

49

Crossword

Across

- 1 Hot tub
- 4 Physicist's dea. 7 Cut in two
- 12 Chop
- 13 Scrooge's cry
- 14 Crosswise, nauti-
- cally
- 15 Historic time 16 Four-line verses
- 18 Atmosphere
- 19 Seafood entree
- 20 Dog bane?
- 22 Very long time
- 23 Former frosh
- 27 Needlefish 29 There
- 31 Perfect
- 34 Perspectives 35 With 48-Across,
- "Family Feud" mate-
- 37 Bankroll
- 38 Oliver Twist's request
- 39 Clean Air Act org.
- 41 Send forth
- 45 Pilfered
- 47 Inseparable
- 48 See 35-Across 52 "Monty Python"
- 53 Pianist Eubie 54 Young seal
- 55 Prepared
- 56 Disrobe 57 Pigpen
- 58 Attempt

Down

- 1 Wheat bundle
- 2 Danger
- 3 Cognizant 4 Cookouts, for short
- 5 UFO, maybe
- eymoon" 9 Island garland 10 Forefront 11 Typog-raphy units
- 17 Broadway prize
- 21 Tequila source
- 24 "- on a Grecian
- 25 Church seat
- abbr.

6 Guitarist once wed to Xavier Cugat

50 51

- 8 "The Daba Hon-

- 7 Difficult

- 23 Insinuating
- Urn"
- 26 Storefront sign

28 Hearty brew 30 Eggs

45

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49 Last (Abbr.)

51 Tackle moguls

➤ Yesterday's answer

50 Listener

25

43

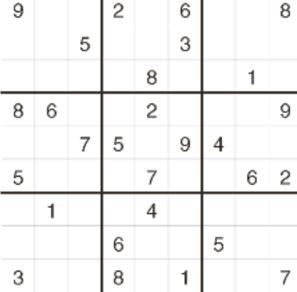
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DOC LAUD DPUP ICE

- 31 Doctrine
- 32 Pair with an air
- 33 Mess up
- 36 Abominable Snowman
- 37 Reddish brown 40 Tires (out)
- 42 Wettish 43 Bury
- 44 Irascible 45 Dance lesson
- 46 Catch sight of
- 48 Brady and Brees,

Sudoku

9		5	2		6			8
		3			3			
				8			1	
8	6			2				9
		7	5		9	4		
5				7			6	2
	1			4				
			6			5		
3			8		1			7



Send a



You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Me (D.B. my wish) I bet a lot of us hoped to received a similar message. Apologies are always welcome no matter what, and it's never too late for it. A simple lie might seem innocent at first, but when discovered can hurt a lot. way too much. So many things I should have said, so many questions that haven't been answered and it's probably why I can hardly move on. Merry Christmas xoxoxo

Missed Connection May joy & goodwill be your gift on your birthday (The 29TH). May this Christmas day... be as special as you are to me! Wishing you a very heartfelt X Mas & wonderful New Year.

FROM SECRET CRUSH

How to play

Today

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and

Yesterday's answer ▶

7"/-15"



9 3 8

8

3 8 4 2 5

5 2

9 6 4 3

3

6 2 7

9 5 6

6 4

8

2

9 3

3

8 1 7 9 5 2 4 6



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Today's horoscope

T Aries March 21-April 20 You will be thinking a lot about your work and your reputation over the next few days

Taurus April 21-May 21 If someone says you should not be

concerned about what is going on in vour immediate environment that means you should be very concerned indeed

II Gemini May 22-June 21 It would appear that you have been worrying about your money situation for no good reason.

 • Cancer June 22-July 22 You are in two minds whether to get involved in a feud that is really none of your business.

Leo July 23-Aug.23 This is the ideal time to think of ways to reduce your chores and improve your

TV Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Your confidence is improving by the

← Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You may find it hard to ask for assistance but ask you must because if you go it alone over the holiday period you could find yourself in a bit of a muddle

m Scorpio oct. 24-Nov. 22 The approaching new moon makes it

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, ao to metronews.ca

easier for you to express yourself. **₹ Sagittarius** Nov. 23-Dec.

21 Good news from afar will cheer you up today, not least because it means you could make a lot of

り Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You are on the cusp of a positive

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Don't snap at people who try to cheer you up — they mean well. H Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. This

is a good day to contact friends

and relatives and plan a get to-

gether. SALLY BROMPTON

Mainly sunny





Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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CHEL'S G

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LOOK AGAIN SPOT THE 10 DIFFERENCES IN THESE TWO IMAGES.

Montreal, Quebec – One fun thing leads to another as the shockingly powerful, ridiculously fuel-efficient 2012 Chevrolet Sonic hatch and sedan hit the downtown streets. As for sibling rivalry? Let's just say it's a good thing they're both confident in the looks department.





7. Removed street sign above the 2012 Chevrolet Sonic 5-door. 2. Removed walkway stripe below the 2013 Chevrolet Sonic 5-door. 3. Changed rection of building sign to yellow. 4. Added stripe to sweater. 5. Added sain onto the patio wall. 6. Switched the direction of some fight side of corner building. 8. Removed a green flag from the hanging line. 9. Added building decor to left side of corner building. 10. Removed streetlight from right side of sonic solutions.







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OTTAWA metr

Monday, December 2 www.metronews.c

ABlackCatCont:

gonna Marry him!!

dance around in my Christend of next year :)

From only **@nadi-aadelle:** would \$17⁵⁰/month





Finally found the man to spend my life with so I am

e! I plan on traveling at the

@desireadawn: savouring the little moments through mindful-

ness

ften as I could!

If it's your last year on Earth, how will you live it?

► **@recordscratcher:** I think I'll start smoking. And, running with scissors. Maybe even start flossing my teeth, but, that's a lot to ask.

@seanydoyle: I blew my "end of days" budget back in 1999. My Netscape stock is still good though, right? #solidplan

@russellabird: I witter so I can do things that actually matter #scotch #family

@NoIAmChuck: Until the end May. I will finish my last nester of school. After that, atch Preppers go crazy hoarding

ces" try anything in order to grow

would se

ing day

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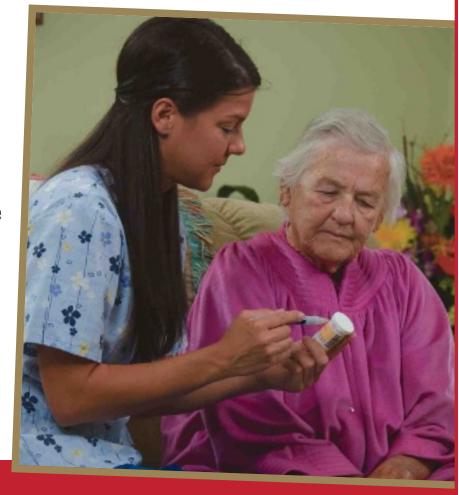
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End of the world, or a new era?

With just under a year to go to Dec. 21, 2012, experts say there's no reason to fear the end is nigh Mayan calendar doesn't mark the apocalypse, they say, but rather the end of a more than 5,000-year era



Doomsday is doomed.

So say experts, who want to dispel a widespread belief that the ancient Mayans predicted Dec. 21, 2012 to be the last day for all humankind.

Jaymie Matthews, an astronomer and astrophysicist at the University of B.C., said the date simply marks the end of a 5,126vear era in the "long count" Mayan calendar.

This calendar system records how many days have passed since Aug. 11, 3114 BCE, the day believed to be the date of creation.

But the Mayans weren't warning future generations about an impending gloom and doom just because they didn't make any physical records of their calendar that went past the first long count, Matthews points out.

"Why would you ever make a calendar that starts on the second long count, which won't start for a couple thousand years after were dead buried?" he asks.

would take a Mayan astronomer at least 10 months to carve a calendar pattern on a huge piece of stone.

There wasn't a point in making and going through the effort of making a calendar that would cover the second long count and would absolutely be of no use to anybody because nobody was going to be alive."

Justin Jennings, lead curator of the exhibition Maya: Secrets of their Ancient World at the Royal Ontario Museum, agrees that the Mayan calendar doesn't predict the end of the world but a transition into a new era.

"For the Maya, the idea was a cycle of time would end in but the next day a new cy-

"(It's like) when you throw out your old calendar, it doesn't mean the

Matthews says

December. cle would begin," he says. world ends. You get a new one.

Matthews says if anything bad happens to the world, it's not going to be anything the Mayans

"If something happens to the world on Dec. 21, 2012, it would be something we would do ourselves," he says.

D D D D D

There isn't the slightest reason to be

Matthews adds, as this would have been the super party of all time for the

of the frenzy:

ISTOCK ILLUSTRATION

The Mayan calendar



Out of the 412 panelists who answered, here are the three most popular picks:



Barack Obama (17 times)





Panel

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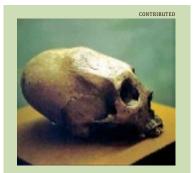
8/14

Mayan secrets revealed

▶ Mayan people did not disappear ▶ There are 10 million Mayan people alive today ▶ Mayans communicated with their gods and ancestors to seek advice on decisions such as marriages, warfare, deaths and harvests



Justin Jennings, lead curator of the exhibition Maya: Secrets of their Ancient World at the Royal Ontario Museum, tells Metro why the Maya civilization is one of the most impressive in human history and sheds light on some of the most widespread myths about the ancient Mava.



The ancient Mayans went to extreme lengths to transform their bodies through tattooing, face painting and body piercing. They did cranial modification where they wrapped up and tied boards to the heads of newborn babies to reshape the skull. They also filed their teeth.



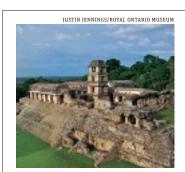
CHOCOLATE

The cacao plant is from the part of the world where the Mayans lived - Mexico and parts of South America. It was an elite drink and only few people could get the chocolate. The nobles drank a mix of chocolate, corn and water, sometimes with chili. Instead of a sweet drink, it would be bitter, spicy and foamy, like a cappuccino.



BLOODLETTING

Piercing the skin and allowing the blood to flow was carried out to communicate with gods and ancestors for advice. They would prick the skin with a stingray spine, bone or rock and collect the blood in a pot with cotton cloth and burn it. A vision serpent would appear in the flames.



MISCONCEPTIONS

Maya culture is not dead. There are 10 million Mayan people today. Many of their city-states and the idea of the sacred rulers that organized these cities died out. Maya is not an empire. It was never unified by a single governing body, but made up of numerous independent city-states with a common culture.

If only there were an undo button on life

It's so hard to get it right when it comes to love and money.

The two were at the top of people's do-over lists when Metro asked members of the Metropolitan Panel to assume that the world is ending and to choose one thing they'd like another crack at.

Apparently, one panelist would like to "crack" her

"I would never marry the a**hole I've been married to for the past 22 years! God, how I hate his guts."

Aside from choice of partner, people also regretted the timing of their marriage.

"Not marry so young and finish college," one panelist wrote.

"I wouldn't have gotten married at 18, would have finished school and been a paralegal," said another.

Yet, many of the 382 respondents said they wish

they hadn't waited so long.

"Realize my husband was the one for me many years sooner," one anonymous participant said.

Money was the other popular do-over choice.

"Spend less and save more, at least 10 per cent of every paycheque. No excuses," one person said.

For every saver, there was a spender.

"Spend every penny I have and have a blast!"

Either way, the smartest

one: "Buy shares in Apple and Google."

Speaking of smarts, a number of respondents said they'd like the chance to go back to school.

Some said they like their career choice, but wish that it paid more. Others said they hate what they do, but the money is so

And while a number of people said they would have had more sex, 33 said

answer was probably this thanks, but no thanks to change. They're happy with the choices they've made.

"All the tough stuff has made me into the person I am today," one respondent

"Every poor choice and failure is an opportunity to learn and grow," another added.

FERNANDO CARNEIRO



To join the panel, visit

Survey do-overs

- I never would have plucked my eyebrows to the point of extinction.
- (I would) come back as Arnold Schwarzenegger.
- Marry Tom Brady.
- I wouldn't have kissed that guy Halloween 2010. It nearly ruined my relationship and because of it my husband is no longer friends with someone he was close to.

WEEK FACTORY B

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All hunker in the Diefenbunker

▶ It seems Diefenbunker is safest Ottawa locale during the apocalypse ▶ But is there room for all of us?



If Doomsday predictions about the Mayan calendar are to be believed, the Diefenbunker will be crowded in 2012.

We asked five locals where they would go to survive the End of Days. Here's what they said.



Mayor Jim Watson

"It's proven to be pretty effective in the Cold War," he said of the formerly secret bunker buried deep under a hillside in Carp. Should it be too crowded — with, we assume, highranking federal Conservatives - Watson said he has a back-up plan: "Either my bathtub or my basement."



Eugene Haslam

His club, Zaphod's, is named after a character who hangs out at The Restaurant at the End of the Universe, so he knows about Armageddon. He notes there are two typical reactions to the impending finale. Some try to survive and others try for one last fling, and they'll be welcome at his bar. But Haslam himself will be at the Diefenbunker.



Singer Kellylee Evans

Evans would hide in the Diefenbunker if survival were her only priority. But family comes first, so she'd be at home with her kids. "I'd stay with them till the end."



HOT 89.9 host Jeff Mauler

Home is where Mauler's heart is going to be during the apocalypse deep down in his "man cave," where he has a high-def 60-inch screen and surround sound. "Would avoid renting 2012, The Day After Tomorrow and Armageddon," he said.



CBC host Alan Neal Neal will bunk down in

the Manx, a basement bar on Elgin Street. "Awesome food, great beer, the board games and books have already been stocked," said Neal. An added bonus, server and award-winning poet Dave O'Meara could read his work so the survivors wouldn't forget life above ground.

Epic travel and sex with strangers ... now guilt-free!

Travel seems to be the No. 1 item on most people's bucket lists, according to a Metropolitan Panel survey.

Of the 361 respondents, 98 said they would like to go on one last epic trip before time runs out.

'See the seven or eight Wonders of the World, and go visit the country where I was born," one panellist responded.

"Spend all my savings on a super vacation," another said.

Some were very specific.

One wants to ride a Harley motorcycle across the Confederation Bridge, while another wants to go to the Playboy Mansion.

Which brings us to "more sex" — another popular answer.

And in the case of one panellist, not just any sex will do. It'll have to be "kinky sexual relations." Of note, "sex with a stranger" made the list five times.

And while a lot of people want to try scuba diving and sky diving at least



Cats and dogs

Random bucket-list items from the Metropolitan Panel survey:

Eat a meaty pizza. "I'm a vegetarian. If I'm going, I might as well take a bunch of animals with me."

once, many respondents said it doesn't matter how they spend their last year on Earth as long as it's with family. • FERNANDO CARNEIRO

- Meet an alien.
- Find my dog that was taken away from me.
- Go to an opera, in full formal, with my husband.
- Spend plenty of time with my cat.



To join the panel, visit metropolitanpanel.ca

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

7 Quick & Easy Fix Ups to Sell our Home Fast and for Top Dollar

OTTAWA - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you'll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible

without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here's a way to help you to be as preway to help you to be as prepared as possible.

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TONY, TREVOR & GLEN ARE BACK!

In the late 1990's there was an explosion of East Coast Celtic Rock and at the forefront of this movement was a fun-loving Halifax band called KILT. Their high energy shows, insane cover songs and wacky banter earned them a cult like following and ECMA nominations for Best New Artist and Group Of The Year. Their albums "KILT" and "Four In The Crib" with their own songs like "Rubber Boots", "Island Kitchen" and "Lift Up Your Glass" saw heavy rotation on radio and music TV, while their kick-ass Celtic version of KISS's "I Was Made For Loving. You" has probably been copied more times than the original!

Fast forward to 2003 when charismatic front man and powerhouse lead vocalist Tony Ronalds teamed up with KILT founding member Glen McInnis (Big Slick) and Ottawa pub scene veteran Trevor Bowering (Walter Ego/Kilbride) to be D'Arcy McGee's Wednesday Night House band jokingly called "Sounds Like KILT!" for years to come. Tony, Trevor and Glen haven't done a show together in years so expect a crazy night with some surprise special guest performances as this reunion bash promises to be legendary!



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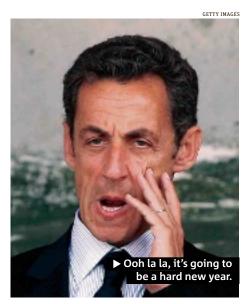


metr











WHAT 2012 WILL BRING

◆ Presidential elections in Russia, France and the U.S. ◆ London will stage the Summer Olympic Games ◆ World is waiting for doomsday ◆ Metro rounds up the biggest events that'll shape the world in an action-filled 2012



Puff, the Magic Dragon ... On Jan. 23 it's Chinese New Year, and this year belongs to the dragon. Fifteen days of celebrations will follow.

Jubilee of Elizabeth II
When Princess Elizabeth became Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on Feb. 6, 1952, Britain was an empire that ruled large parts of the world. Sixty years later, Britain is no longer an empire; in fact, it's just a mid-

size member of the E.U. The Queen, however, remains very popular. The country celebrates her 60 years on the throne with a series of special events any Royal fan will cherish.

Putin set for re-election On March 4, Vladimir Putin looks set to be elected the next president of Russia. Yes, it's a democratic election, but Putin is widely considered a shooin. Dmitry Medvedev, Putin's protégé who has served as president for the past four years, is billed to become prime minister.

Titanic's anniversary
Was it too big to fail?
On April 10, 1912,

RMS Titanic set out on its maiden voyage, from Southampton to New York. But the luxury liner, known as the world's safest ship, sank when it hit an iceberg. Some 1,500 of the Titanic's 2,200 passengers were killed. On April 14, the 100th anniversary of the catastrophe, cruise ships will take visitors to the site where the Titanic sank.

Anti-Sarkozy
Will the euro sink
Nicolas Sarkozy? The
French president faces voters at the polls on April 22.
With disgraced IMF chief
Dominique Strauss-Kahn
out of the race, Sarkozy's
main challenger is François

Hollande, a man so bland that he's turned it into his trademark. But with the euro in tatters, Hollande stands a good chance of winning.

Europe's feast of soccer
On June 8, Europe's
16 leading soccer nations descend on Poland
and Ukraine for Euro 2012.
With a little bit of luck, the
host countries will even be
ready for the famous event.
Delays have hampered the
preparations, with UEFA
chief Michel Platini threatening to move the championship to Germany.

Summer Olympics London is definitely ready for the Summer

Olympics, which begins in London on July 27. London, which last hosted the games as a war-torn city in 1948, has been credited with impeccable planning and finishing construction of new arenas ahead of schedule.

Who will face Obama? It won't be Herman. Herman Cain, this year's surprise frontrunner for Republican candidate in the U.S. presidential election, has dropped out of the race. At their convention, which begins Sept. 1, Republicans will choose either Mitt Romney or Newt Gingrich as their candidate to take on Barack Obama. The

Democrats will elect Obama as their presidential candidate two days later.

More drama for Obama. Barack Obama faces a surprisingly tough re-election on Nov. 6. Many Americans are disappointed with Obama, who won the goodwill of the whole nation — and much of the world — in the election more than three years ago.

The end of the world Arrivederci, folks. According to one interpretation of the Mayan calendar, the world will end on Dec. 21, 2012.



Hey, it could happen...

There's reason to fear a new war in the Middle East and collapse of the euro
 Metro lists 3 events that may happen in 2012, and change the way we live

1

Iran attacked

"The United States has launched a missile attack on Iran's uranium centrifuges near the city of Natanz. The Americans, backed by the United Kingdom, France and Israel, acted after IAEA inspectors were repeatedly blocked from entering the Natanz facility. While Iran claims it's developing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, the international community suspects it's secretly developing nuclear weapons."

The attack hasn't happened, but something similar may very well occur in 2012. But while it would set Iran's nuclear ambitions back, it may also trigger an armed conflict. Since Iran is far from well-liked among its neighbours, the conflict would be unlikely to spread to other countries. But the United States could ill afford another war.



Euro collapses

Good news, all of you who've kept D-mark, Francs





and Lire in your drawers: You'll be able to use them again. The bad news: Your countries — the 17 nations in the eurozone — will plunge into an unprecedented purgatory of financial collapse and bureaucracy.

The euro, Europe's proudest achievement and the most visible sign that the continent is committed to a peaceful future, has failed."

The collapse of the euro is a possibility next year, and it's what Angela Merkel and Nicolas Sarkozy want to avoid. Even if their citizens nostalgically remember the D-mark and the Franc as stable currencies and don't see the point of sacrificing to bail Greece out, the leaders know the single currency is past the point of no return. If the euro fails, the world may face a new Great Depression.

3

FIFA accepts goal-line technology

After a hundred years of pretending that technology doesn't exist, football's governing body may vote to use goal-line technology to decide on the most crucial moments in the game. The International Football Association board is expected to make the decision in March; it will be introduced in August with the beginning of the English Premier League's new season.

The English have been the leading proponents of this step, after Frank Lampard's goal in the 2010 World Cup game against Germany was erroneously disallowed. The system will help referees with goal-line decisions by giving an answer within 0.5 seconds of the supposed goal.

● ELISABETH BRAW, MWN

7 people to watch in 2012



Alexei Navalny

This 35-year-old Russian lawyerwhistleblower buys shares in governmentowned companies, uncovers corruption and blogs about it. He may pose big problems for Putin's presidential bid.



Razan Zaitouneh

Look out for Zaitouneh in Syria's Arab Spring. The 34-year-old lawyer founded Syria's Human Rights Association and remains a key opposition leader.



Yoani Sánchez

The Castro brothers are still in charge, but the founder of the Generation Y blog poses a serious threat to their decades-long rule.



François Hollande

Will 'Mr Boring' be France's new President? Given Nicolas Sarkozy's poor popularity rating, the self-styled plain guy has a good chance to win.



Newt Gingrich

When Metro interviewed the former House speaker last year, he still hadn't decided whether to run for President. Now he's the Republican party's front-runner.



Leopoldo López

He's young, popular and handsome. No wonder Hugo Chavez has banned the former mayor of Chacao from running for office. López still intends to face Chavez in elections in 2012.



Kim Jong Un

No one is even sure about his exact age, but Kim is expected to become the new leader of North Korea now that father, Kim Jong-il, has died



2012 D00MSDAY:

What would you do with one year to live?

- If we could know for sure that the world will end on Dec. 21, 2012, what would you do with 12 months to live?
- Metro asked its newsdesk editors from around the world what they would do with one year to go

METRO CANADA, AMBER SHORTT



- Get caught kissing during a Vancouver riot. Come on Canucks!
- Occupy a yurt. Any
- Build a bunker for three of my favourite Canadians: my sister, my niece and Ryan
- Gosling. Talk Richard Branson into giving me a free ride to space — then hijack the rocket and head to Kepler-22b.
- Get my picture in Metro Paris ... So I can go out in style.



- Coerce world leaders to make George Bush President of Earth: 12 months of hilarity!
- Heli-ski down the volcanoes of Kamchatka!
- Watch every episode of the Simpsons backto-back in one week.
- Witness the aurora australis: aurora borealis is so overrated.
- Try all the world's culinary 'delicacies' like fried tarantulas or fruit bat soup: already ate scorpions and bees!



- Tour the continents of the world that distribute Metro papers.
- Keep a few thousand U.S. dollars for daily expenditure — I'll donate the rest of my money to charity.
- Invite all my past and present 'enemies' for a meeting of reconciliation, so I'll have no regrets on Doomsday!
- Celebrate Metro HK's 10th Anniversary.
- Fly to London and see Hong Kong's athletes compete for gold.

METRO COLOMBIA, GABRIEL MURILLO



- Dare I say it, I'd quit my job! With one year to go, it'll be high time to spend every moment with family and friends.
- I think travelling is a good idea. Make a trip to some exotic climates.
- If I just have one year to live, I'll try to be a kind person to people who need care. Like poor, old and disabled folks.
- Marry somebody!
- . But at the same time who could say no to a few crazy nights of wild debauchery?!

METRO SWEDEN, IESSICA CARLESON

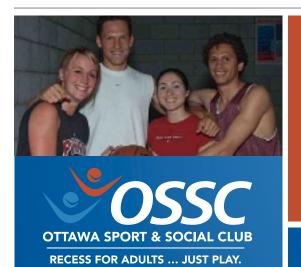


- Take my mom on an African safari. It is her dream and it is my wholehearted ambition to spoil my parents. Dad should come as well.
- Learn to tango properly in Buenos Aires. And possibly move there.
- Convince at least one racist about the value of equal rights and worth of all humankind.
- Learn to speak Spanish even the dreaded sub junctive tense.
- I won't tell ... That's my little secret.

METRO MEXICO, GERMÁN CHÁVEZ MIRANDA



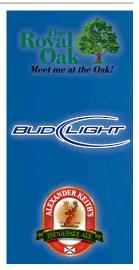
- Drive a race car: Racing full throttle excites me.
- Visit Thailand to sample its authentic cuisine. I absolutely adore sweet and spicy food.
- Learn everything about Mexico: I'd hate to leave this world without knowing my homeland.
- See the midnight sun: This may be normal for those near the North Pole, but I think it's one of Earth's greatest phenomena.
- Have a baby: I'd like to know what it's like to



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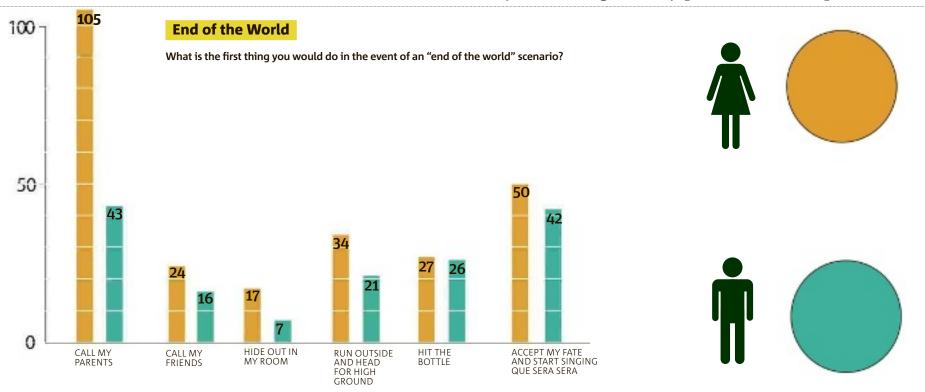
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OK, we know it's not the end of the world, but if it were, you would generally pick one of six options ...



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*Sandra S. of Toronto
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The new year, by the numbers

The world we know now will be changed forever, and numerology predicts 2012 will make it a better place

What is numerology?

Numbers have relationships with all things in namaking powerful symbolic expressions. Numerology is used to predict life, and the circumstances that surround it. It is often used to inter-

pret a person's talents, traits and overall character throughout their destiny.

When one begins to understand the formula used behind numerology, they begin to unlock the deepest secrets in their life and quite possibly in the lives of others.

Breaking down the digits

One important thing to remember when using numerology is that the numerical digits need to be broken down to a single digit in order to decipher the predictable outcome of what you are seeking.

For example, take the year 2012. Broken down it equals 2+0+1+2 = 5.

So, the influence for the year 2012 will be based upon the expression of the number five.

The power of five

Five itself has a powerful meaning — full of wild primitive adventure and unexpected exciting

The number five influence enhances freewill and self-expression. This means that during 2012, individuals will be living life their way. People who have been putting off projects, important decisions, loved ones or even a vacation will now make the time to accomplish the things that are overdue.

seeking their While highest goals and chasing their dearest dreams, as they bounce from one unique experience to the next, during 2012 most people will freely share their emotions and thoughts with the world. With this number-five influence, many people in the world will desire to use social outlets, ultimately as a tool to connect with the world.

Money-wise

Folks will take finances to a more serious level, and although they may not Lessons to be learned save as much money as Yes, the year 2012 will be they would like to, eventusomewhat unpredictable with all the frequent changes that five imposes,

ally their spending habits will change, and wiser choices will be made rebut 2012 will be a memogarding their budget. People will start to get stingy with their cash, spending

rable year, packed with valuable lessons which people will learn to live by. The world is not ending, the competition will be

but it is becoming a better

© CERISE FAIRFAX (NUMEROLOGIST)

2012: 5 positives

Taking the initiative to

Love connections

Reconciliation

Mental/emotional

5 Expression of self

2012: 5 negatives

Challenges

Overreacting

Heightened sensitivity

Self-centredness

Controlling

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Fall of civilizations around the globe

▶ In order to remain on top, empires need effective governance, vast financial resources and cutting-edge technology. ▶ Score a three out of three and you'll be fine, but lose one peg and your throne will teeter

Roman Empire: 27 BC to 476 AD



If the Romans wrote a This Land is My Land song it'd go something like this: "From the Moors of Scotland out to the Tigris and Euphrates River, and from the North Seas of Germany to the sands of the Sahara, hail Caesar." The Romans gave us sanitation and spectator sports, aqueducts, irrigation and fine wine.

How they collapsed: In the end, the bread and circuses could no longer disguise the crumbling economy and political corruption. Historians often attribute the downfall to everything from decadent lifestyle choices to rampant lead poisoning.

Lesson learned: Whether you're an empire or a runway model, spread yourself too thin, and you will collapse.

Ottoman Empire: 1299-1922

In its heyday in the 16th century, during the reign of Suleyman the Magnificent, a.k.a. Suleyman the Lawgiver, this Turkish empire's lands encompassed a wide swath of southeastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, with Constantinople as the capital. The Ottomans gave us Turkish baths, belly dancers and, of course, the ottoman.

How they collapsed: While it was hit with the Sick Man of Europe label back in the mid-1800s, the empire would completely unravel during the First World War as the Ottomans allied themselves with the wrong side and lost the war.

Lesson learned: As Rihanna knows, getting a diverse audience to stand under your umbrella isn't the challenge — it's keeping them there.

USSR (Soviet Empire): 1917-1989

In addition to blanketing mother Russia, the Soviet spectre shone on an array of satellite states like East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Cuba and North Korea. The Soviets gave us gulags, the KGB and Vladislav Tretiak

How they collapsed: Because of what Sylvester Stallone said at the end of Rocky IV: "During this fight, I've seen a lot of changing.... In here, there were two guys killing each other, but I guess that's better than 20 million. I guess what I'm trying to say, is that if I can change, and you can change, everybody can change!"

Lesson learned: Turns out Gordon Gekko was right: "Greed is good."

Persian Empire: 550-330 BC



Spearheaded by Cyrus the Great, the Persian Empire incorporated Thrace, the lands bounded by the Tigris River and the Persian Gulf and eventually Egypt and Asia Minor. Their military taught us the importance of a well-trained army. They're also responsible for Achaemenid architecture seen at Persepolis palace.

How they collapsed: Alexander the Great's armies swept in and won decisively in the battle of Issus.

Lesson learned: Even the most ornate rug can still be swept from under the biggest and baddest kingdom on the block.

Inca Empire: 1438-1533

At the height of their power, the Incas ruled western

South America with their powerseat in Peru, and their enviable territory reaching portions of modern day Ecuador, Bolivia, Argentina, Chile and Colombia.

Their sophisticated mortar-free construction gave us Machu Picchu and introduced us to the intoxicating narcotic properties of the coca plant.

How they collapsed: Spanish conquistadors led by Francisco Pizzaro conquered them with their superior artillery coupled with viral warfare via the smallpox they brought with them. It was a devastating one-two punch that would wipe out the Inca civilization.

Lesson learned: Worship the sun too long, and you will eventually get burned.

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NEVER MIND THE ZOTZ, FOLKS: THIS IS NOT THE END

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO



Another year, another yearend story. Yawn. However: If you

believe hundreds of books and 1,000-plus websites and blogs, this will be the last year-end ever. Nothing boring about that.

The end really is near, they say. Dec. 21, 2012, to be precise. That's the day the Mayan "long count" calendar ends, and as the calendar outlasted the civilization, there are no Mayan calendar guys around to tell us what that means.

That hasn't prevented a parade of self-declared Mayan calendar experts from speculating that the world will end on that day, just shy of a year from now. For example, the movie 2012 featured a

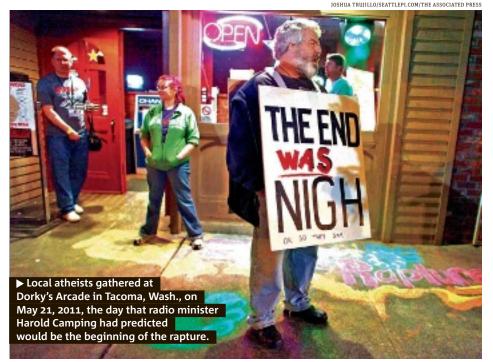
killer solar flare, a biblical flood, a really bad script and wooden performances. Scary.

That's the glass halfempty crowd. The halffull gang, starring people like bestselling really bad writer William Gladstone, author of The Twelve, prefer the New Age interpretation. "Greed and materialism will have a lesser role in this new era. There will be a greater emphasis on harmony among all living beings."

If you use that Prophety voice, it sounds more convincing.

There's more. For the first time in 26,000 years, the centre of the Milky Way (our home galaxy) and our sun will be in alignment. How cool is that? Not to mention the fact that Dec. 21 is the winter solstice and witchy stuff happens on the solstice.

Finally, that glyph of a Porky Pig-like character



on the calendar, going what appears to be "Duhbeeya-duhbeeya-

duhbeeya that's all, folks" in Mayan is somewhat troubling.

Just kidding about the big.

After extensive research (er, Google), I can authoritatively declare it's all a bunch of "zotz,"

which is Mayan for "bats," which is as close as I can get to "crazy."

The world will not end on Dec. 21 2012, say the usual humourless scientists from NASA, et cetera, any more than it will end on Dec. 31, 2011. Plus there's no way the Mayan astronomers could have known about that alignment of the sun and the galaxy thing. It's just a calendar, people. Get a life.

Before we go (but not for good!) let's raise a New Year's glass to Harold Camping, who, using his own zotz calendar, predicted the world would end on May 21, 2011, and when that didn't work, went all out for Oct. 21, 2011. That didn't work either, probably because he ignored the significance of the solstice, the equinox and reality in general.

Still, you never know. But to leave you on an upbeat note, John Cusack, the star of 2012, when asked what he would be doing on Dec. 21, 2012, replied: "Skiing."

Nothing zotz about him.







metr@news

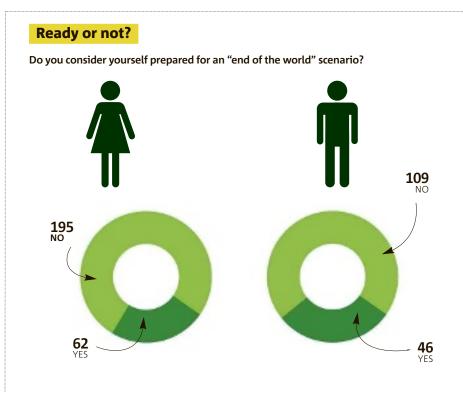
metronews.ca MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2011 19

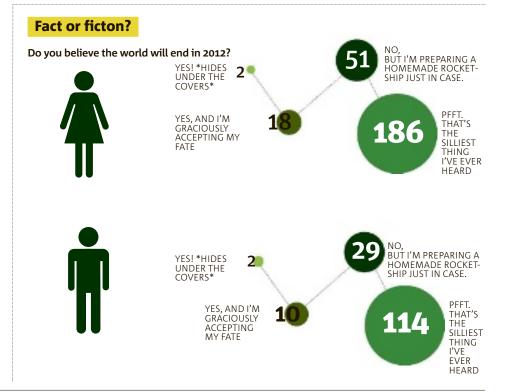
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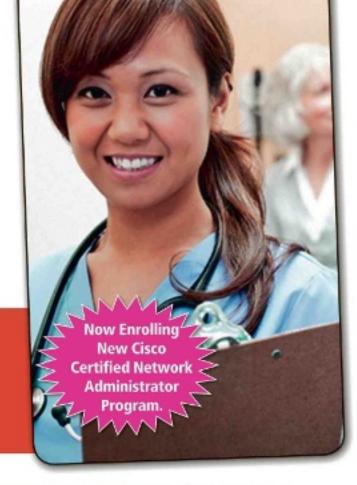
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SAVE YOU MONEY WHILE YOU DO!

When Gabriele Mascarin made a New Year's resolution last year to lose 15 pounds and tone up, little did she know that her HTC Panache 4G would help her reach her goal.

On the suggestion of a friend, Mascarin downloaded New Years Buzzer (NYB), a free app that encourages you to make changes and stick with them. "It's easy to veer away from your target no matter how disciplined you are," says Mascarin, a 27year-old fashion designer in Toronto. But getting daily mobile reminders and messages helped her stay focused on her goals. For example, when Mascarin told her smartphone that she went to the gym, avoided a high-fat meal and made it to her

hot yoga class, she would receive a congratulatory message at the end of

"I loved getting that little message cheering me on," she says.

When it comes to keeping your New Year's resolution, a smartphone from Mobilicity could make all the difference. Mobilicity has a full range of smartphones at different prices, and right now there are several holiday sales on, too.

Switching to Mobilicity is also an easy way to save money on wireless. With unlimited talk, text and data from Mobilicity, you don't have to worry about paying overages for data usage.

So how can a smartphone help you succeed with your New Year's resolution?

If dropping pounds is a priority, keep your BlackBerry or Android smartphone on a different floor or level so that every time you need to send a text message, check Facebook or answer a call, you have to run a flight of stairs to do so.

Or, watch the pounds melt away as you groove to your favourite dance tunes on the built-in MP3 player on your Nexus S (\$349.99 reduced from \$499.99

Also, check out The Calorie Counter by FatSecret (Android, BlackBerry), a free app that lets you track food intake, exercise and weight. Or, download My Diet Coach (Android). The app offers motivational images and arguments to help fight food cravings and emotional eating.

Co-ordinate an early-morning walking group using Google Maps and then post the route on Facebook so that your friends are encouraged to join you.

Or, try the free Endomondo Sports Tracker (Android, BlackBerry). This fitness partner/trainer app gives audio feedback for every kilometre covered, and real-time GPS tracking of time, distance, speed and calories. It also offers real-time pep talks from friends following you live and on a smartphone, like the BlackBerry Curve 9360 (available from Mobilicity for \$299.99).

STOP SMOKING

Want to butt out this year? Try Quitnow! (Android, BlackBerry), a free app that tallies the days you haven't lit up, the number of cigarettes not smoked and how much money and years you've saved.

Or, start a Twitter account and tweet about your avoidance strategies every time you crave a cigarette but don't light up.

If your resolution centres on improving your finances, make a note or take video clips of every single purchase you make — the only way to tackle your personal finances is by knowing exactly how much you're spending.

Mint (Android), a free app, can also help. It analyzes your spending and accounts to see if a better credit card or bank account could save you money. It also helps you budget, review your investments and offers alerts that notify you of fees, remind you to pay your bills and advise when you're going

Being more productive and organized are common New Year's resolutions. Start by setting alarms on your smartphone well in advance so you're not late — for anything.

Use the calendar on the HTC Panache 4G, for example, to schedule time to work out or get organized.

For BlackBerry users looking to take better control of their time in 2012, there's BlackBerry's Task List. You can also send yourself words of encouragement with BlackBerry's Voice Notes. The BlackBerry Torch 9810 is just one of several BlackBerry smartphones available from Mobilicity that has the voice note function

Another good idea is to download the BlackTrack-Auto-Productivity Log (BlackBerry). It's a comprehensive phone and email activity report app that lets you follow your billable activity data and see how you are spending your time. The free Springpad (Android) app saves notes, products and places in one place and organizes them in ways that help you save time and money.

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The powerful HTC Panache 4G features the best of style, function and innovation with the powerful Android 2.3 operating system and HTC Sense. It has interactive camera effects, GPS navigation and can turn into a portable Wi-Fi hotspot. At Mobilicity, \$299.99 (reduced from \$499).



NEXUS S

The Nexus S features a 1 GHz processor, 16 GB of internal memory and a 4-inch curved glass multitouch display – packaged in an elegant slim profile that fits perfectly in your hand. With Mobilicity's unlimited data, it's easy and affordable to browse the web, watch videos and play games.

The Nexus S is priced at \$349.99 (reduced from \$499) at Mobilicity.



Start your new year with the all-new BlackBerry Torch 9810. It features a full-touch 3.2-inch display, sliding **QWERTY** keyboard and BlackBerry 7 OS with Liquid Graphics and the latest multimedia features such as HD video. It also has a fast 1.2 GHz processor and 5.0 Megapixel camera with flash. At Mobilicity, \$499.99



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NOKIA 500

The Nokia 500 is a mid-range smartphone that features a fast 1 GHz processor and a 3.2-inch touchscreen display with 640 x 360 pixel screen resolution and a OWERTY keyboard. With Wi-Fi and Bluetooth connectivity, it's the perfect smartphone for staying connected with all your friends On sale for \$99.99 for a limited time at Mobilicity (reduced from \$169.99).



TOP 8 HEALTH &

Download some health and fitness apps to keep you on track in the new year! Many apps are free, some you will have to pay for. But once you've made your selection, you can download them anytime with Mobilicity's unlimited data access. And here's some even better news their 50-per-cent-off regular plans offer has been held over through Boxing Week due to popular demand, so you still have time to take advantage of

Go from couch potato to running 5K in just nine weeks. This beginners' program allows you to play your own music and has audible reminders for you to switch from running to walking and back. The Pro version supports background mode, music control, and custom sounds. There's also a free version, C25K, which has to be in the foreground to run.

BLACKBERRY. ANDROID

This fitness tracking app uses the built-in GPS of your smartphone to track all of your fitness activities, as well as your route! It keeps track of how long you work out, how many calories you burn, and your distance. pace and speed. Android users can share details on Facebook and Twitter for fun and even

ANDROID. BLACKBERRY

Always wanted a personal fitness trainer? Here's one that fits in the palm of your hand! Choose a training plan for your sport and then track your workouts. You can show off your progress on miCoach.com. Real time audible coaching will help keep you on track!

This abs-building routine is easy to follow with animated demos, voice narration and music that guide you through the 10-minute sequence. The exercise routine itself is based on 16 yoga asanas. There are lots of reminders about proper posture and yogic breathing, too.

DAILY CARDIO WORKOUT **ANDROID** FREE

Now you can do a quick five- to 10minute cardio workout anywhere and anytime. This app provides daily cardio routines demonstrated by a certified personal trainer. The routine's simple interface, complete with video and timer, lets you

INSTANT HEART RATE

Keep track of your heart rate while you exercise with your smartphone. All you have to do is place your finger gently over the camera and hold it steady for at least 10 seconds. Then your heart rate is shown on the display.

MULTI REPS

This app creates a personalized strength-training workout program with exercises that everyone knows how to do, such as push-ups, situps, dips, squats, pull-ups and more. There's a timer to remind you when the rest time, between each set, is over.

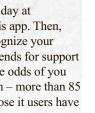
SPARK RECIPES - ANDROID, BLACKBERRY - FREE

Looking to lose weight or just make healthier eating choices in general? The Healthy Recipes – Spark Recipes app lets you browse through thousands of delicious choices. Each recipe provides easy how-to instructions as well as how many calories, fat and other nutrients are in a serving.

ANDROID FREE

Record what you eat and how much you exercise every day at Loseit.com with this app. Then, earn badges to recognize your success and add friends for support and motivation. The odds of you succeeding are high - more than 85 percent of active Lose it users have lost weight!







22

BOXING DAY BLOWOUT

metr@news

metronews.ca
MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2011

The 2012 tech trends

● If the Terminator series proves right (and who doubts it?) technology may not be our friend for much longer, so embrace it now ● Here's our look into the near future (no hoverboards, yet) ● As ever, fighting games rule

Grand Theft Auto V



This is going to be huge. Like, Avatar-huge: The last Grand Theft Auto was the biggest videogame launch of its time, and overall, the series has moved more than 124 million copies. V is set in a warped version of Los Angeles, called

Los Santos, and stars a family man pulled back into a world of crime. Horrific crime. Previous instalments have been blamed for inciting reallife violence. Expect at least a mob ... at the video-game store. No release date yet.

Windows 8: Touch



The touch screen revolution comes to the PC, as Microsoft's rumored new OS will support finger-clicking icons. The company could use the buzz: in the cool wars, it's lost to Apple for decades.

2

The Amazing Spider-Man

Tied into this summer's movie reboot, this Activision title allows you to venture all over the big city, slinging webs at anyone — a significant change from previous Spidey games where you were stuck on one track. Also a bonus: A writer from Battlestar Galactica helped pen the plot.

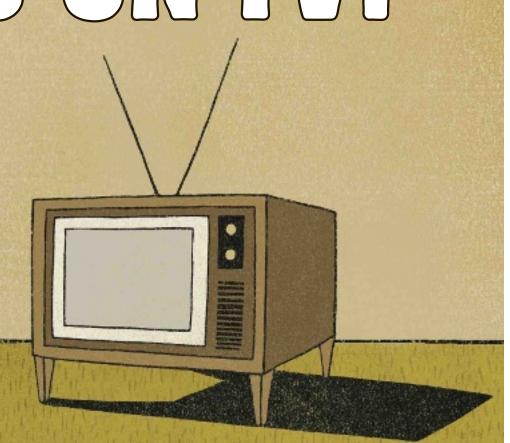


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Wii U





The original Wii with joysticks that looked like nunchucks and family-friendly titles —brought Nintendo back to the forefront of gaming, although the Xbox Kinect (no joystick required) later stole the spotlight. The Wii U does require a

controller — but it's got a touch screen, which means games can be played on the television or in your hand. Revolutionary, or too complicated? Find out while playing LEGO City Stories or a new Pimkin. No release date vet.

A new Angry Birds

The original topped the 2011 charts as the most downloaded paidfor iTunes app. We're hoping a new edition launches in 2012, because - hold on one second. I'm almost past level 19. No release date yet.



iPad 3

Rumours have swirled about this since the debut of the iPad 2 back in March: Will it have a retina display (with an amazingly crisp resolu-tion)? Can you control it with

a gesture — no touchrequired? Will Siri? Who knows! But talking about it will be a trend in itself. No release date yet. The photo below is fake, by



A new Halo



To paraphrase Sgt. Johnson from the first Halo: "I don't care if it's God's own antison-of-a-bitch machine, or a giant hoola hoop," we want this sequel if it comes. For now, it's just a rumor. SAM CASTONE

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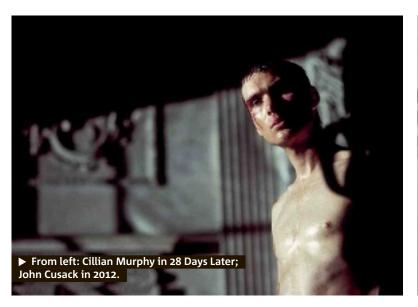
Armageddon at the box office



Filmmakers seem just as obsessed with the end of the world as the ancient Mayans were. It almost seems Hollywood could make post-apocalyptic movies until the end of the world comes for real. This week the Reel Guys have a look at our world ceasing to exist.



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Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN

SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



End of times in film

▶ Hollywood loves a good apocalypse▶ Here are some watchable worst-case scenarios

Richard: Mark, there are so many end-of-the-world-aswe-know-it movies out there it's hard to narrow it down, but I'll start our look at the end with Last Night. It's a dramedy about how people react in the hours before the destruction of the planet. My favourite part has David Cronenberg, in a rare appearance in front of the camera, as a utility company boss spending his final moments calling all his clients to offer thanks for their business.

Mark: Oh, Richard, I hated that movie. I found it twee and precious. Maybe I'm just an old-fashioned guy when it comes to the end of the world, but I want to see landmarks crumbling, a body count in the billions, explosions, tidal waves, and most importantly, a dad separated from his estranged wife and child who

saves them, and his relationship. So, I liked 2012, even though I suspect the Mayans were numerically challenged. But I think it's important to differentiate between a natural apocalypse and one caused by alien invasion. Which do you – ahem – prefer?

RC: I'm more of a good old-fashioned apocalypse guy, although I'm also partial to super-plagues as well. At least on film. Omega Man, 28 Days Later and 12 Monkeys all have crazy viruses with the potential to wipe out mankind. One of the best epidemic movies is The Stand. It was made for TV, but doesn't skimp on the apocalyptica.

MB: Let me reverse my stand on my desire to see big special effects in these films. The Road is one of the scariest, most haunting

movies about trying to survive an apocalypse I've ever seen. But then again, Independence Day has the White House blowin' up real good! I think there's an interesting double bill here, with two widely different takes on the topic.

RC: I have to say that one of the best apocalyptic movies didn't have anything to do with aliens or killer planets but with a very simple idea — mass infertility. There's few special effects and the White House is probably still standing at the end. It's more about great storytelling and a thought provoking idea.

MB: Children of Men? Brilliant. But when I was a little boy I saw On the Beach, set in Australia after a nuclear holocaust. Not one special effect, but I cried myself to sleep for months.

Top three

Richard's Picks:

1. On the Beach A dystopian drama starring Gregory Peck that set the date for the end of the world just after World War III in 1964.

2. Panic in Year Zero! Begins with one of filmdom's great

with one of filmdom's great understatements. "We've had it, haven't we dad?" as a mushroom cloud rises in the background.

3. Rock & Rule is an animation set on a devastated planet where a rock star tries to rule the world.

Mark's Picks

1. Miracle Mile Real-time panic as our hero frantically searches for his girlfriend in L.A. before the bombs drop.

2. The Day After Made for TV, a hyper-realistic look at Lawrence, Kansas after it's hit by a nuke.

3. I Am Legend Will Smith is great in the Charlton Heston role in Omega Man.



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WINNERS

Is that your final answer?

• It may not be the end of the world ... yet, but we asked a few celebrities what they'd do if it was

WIZ KHALIFA

RAPPER

What is the last song you'll sing in the **shower?** Save The Children by Marvin Gaye

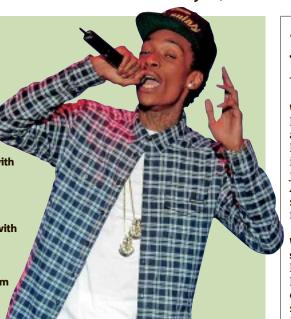
What is the last movie you'll watch and with

The Notebook with Amber.

What is the one luxury item you'll bring with you to the New World? My laptop.

Who is the one fellow celebrity with whom you'll want to travel to the New World? Amber Rose.

PAT HEALY



JAMIE BELL ACTOR

What is your last meal?

It would definitely be a meat dish. I love meat. It's so bad, but damn. it's pretty good. Maybe just cook a whole cow. Actually, probably a steak au poivre or steak

What is the last song you'll sing in the shower?

Maybe Let it Be. Maybe a Pink Floyd song? Or you could go out on something completely ironic like Always Look on the Bright Side of Life.

What is the last movie you'll

I would love to say something that was really influential, about the goodness of humanity, but it would probably be Jurassic Park, honestly.

What is the one luxury item you'll bring with you to the **New World?**

The Complete Works of Shakespeare.

Who is the one fellow celebrity with whom you'll want to travel to the New World?

Andy Serkis, for sure. I love that man. I genuinely love him.

RICHARD CROUSE

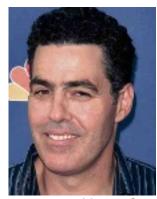


ADAM CAROLLA COMEDIAN

What is your last meal?

I'd go to the busiest restaurant, whose kitchen was most backed up and then I would change my order three or four times. I'd stretch it out. I'd eat lobsters raised on Snickers bars then dipped in a buttermilk substance mixed with tempura sauce and then deep-fried. With heroin sprinkled on it.

What is the last song you'll sing in the shower?



You can go with one of my favourites like John Hiatt or Elvis Costello and hear something you really want to hear. Or, a better approach would be to take a horrible song like Maneater by Hall and Oates and want to die.

What is the last movie you'll watch and with whom?

I would pick a long movie. I'd watch Goodfellas with Joe Pesci and make sure he got drunk and have him reenact his scenes. I'd have Ray Liotta there too and make them do their crazy laughs for me.

What is the one luxury item you'll bring with you to the **New World?**

Wait a minute; you can't transport items. You're

Who is the one fellow celebritv with whom vou'll want to travel to the New World? The world is ending. That's

it. You're done. PAT HEALY

MINDY KALING WRITER, PRODUCER, **ACTRESS**

What would your last meal be? My last meal would probably be Ethiopian food, my favourite

kind of food ... it's super heavy and I love it.

What would the last song you'd sing in the shower be? Countdown by Beyoncé.

What is the last movie you'd watch and with whom?

The last movie I would watch would be You've Got Mail and I'd watch it with

my mom.

What's one luxury item you'd bring with you to the new world?

In the post apocalyptical world where it's like Cormac McCarthy's The Road and everyone is dirty

and disgusting, I'd bring a Judith Lieber clutch, like in my rags.

One celebrity you'd want to travel with to the new world?

Aaron Sorkin PAT HEALY

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Escaping the apocalypse? Take some 2012 sounds with you

The Dø
Both Ways Open Jaws, the sophomore album by the French duo The Dø, instantly feels classic and contemporary. It is celebratory and it is agitated; it is majestic and it is raw; it is artsy and it is poppy. Basically, it sounds the way you'd expect Lady Gaga to sound if you had only ever seen photos of her.

King Krule
If you didn't know
that Archy Marshall

was a fresh-faced 17-yearold, and you heard his patient beats, sophisticated guitar chords, moody words and his low London voice, you might think he was in his 30s and possibly was the type of character who accompanied Pete Doherty through every stint in rehab. But luckily for us, Marshall has many years ahead of him.

Azealia Banks
Imagine if Rihanna really was into sex as much as she sings about.

And if Nicki Minaj was into Interpol! Then you might have an idea of the hot, hilarious awesomeness that is the 20-year-old Harlem native Azealia Banks.

Michael Kiwanuka
His Tell Me a Tale,
sounds at first like a
forgotten tune from the
1970s, but once he gets to
the chorus you'll know
that not only is this a song
of the new decade, but it is
one that will not be forgot-

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The most anticipated albums of next year

Lana Del Rey

Born to Die Jan. 31

Lana Del Rey released a video this summer that was so hot that every blogger in the world watched it back-to-back enough that they were all fighting to be the first to declare her passé by the next day. But for those of us who are just interested in good music, rather than hearing it first, Del Rey's sultry take on gangsta will be a breath of fresh air.

Sleigh Bells

Reign of Terror Feb. 14

There's a saying that you have your whole life to make your first album, and

then about a year to make the follow-up. With their debut, this duo blew out enough speakers and blew enough minds that they just may be up to the challenge of hurdling past the sophomore slump.

Mumford and Sons

title and release date undetermined

These lads are in the same predicament as Sleigh Bells, with a second album due, but on the acoustic side.

Dr. Dre

Detox, release date undetermined

Sources indicate the good

doctor could actually drop the follow-up to 2001's "2001" before it officially becomes a long-awaited release of Chinese Democracy proportions.

No Doubt

title and release date undetermined

It's been more than a decade since No Doubt released Rock Steady. Luckily they haven't teased the world with little hints and glimpses of what they were toiling away on in the studio, the way Dr. Dre has. We have a feeling this will just have us feeling hella good all over again. PAT HEALY





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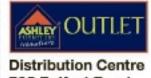
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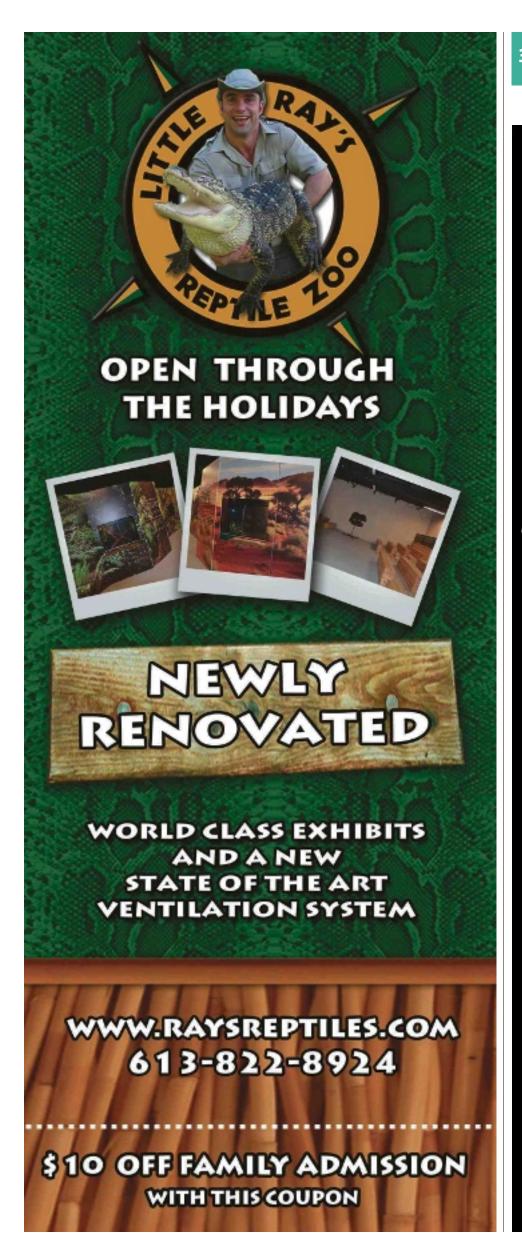


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100% Madonna's COMEBACK

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A NEW MOVIE
Streened at the Venice
Pilm Festival, "W.E."
follows a romantic
researcher in the 1990s
(Abbie Cornish) delving
into the tile of Wallis
Simpson (Andrea
Riseborough), the
American divorcee who
channed King Edward VIII.
We see both lives lived,
though you may want to
see none of it: Reviews

30%

have been mixed.

A NEW ALBUM
Set for spring, the
dist's first singles
should be dropping
soon. Will it be back to
basics, or technoinfused, or or or, for a
hint, she's hired
some...



NEW SCENT hat does Madorna smell like? Find out: Her new "expression of me," a perfume called Truth or Dare, is due this year. The scent shares a name with her fashion line, which is still in stores.



She hasn't gone away in more than three decades, so we're banking on Madge to survive no matter what happens. Find out how the 53-yearold plans to dominate 2012



NEW GIG
In January, she headlines
the halftime show at the
Super Bowl, in a
performance conceived
by the alwaysunderstated Girque Du
Soleil. Will cone bias
play to mainstream
America?



MADONNA-NESS
Somewhere—possibly
hidden in the gap
between her teeth, or
underneath the Kabbalah
bracelet—there lies a
spirit animal (a Patronus,
if you will) that ensures
the Material Girl, will the
forever, the "actual"
Madonna died 26 years
ago, according to legend.



NEW FRIENDS To court younger fans.

To court younger fans, Madonna has hired rapper Nicki Minaj and Sri Lankan superstar M.L.A. on the track "Give Me All Your Love." Minaj, for one, is excited, tweeting: "OH MY l'ingage Gahthhill!! MADONNA jus kissed me!!!! On the tips!!!!!!!! It felt soppo good. Socop soft!!!! "passes out" asahhthh!!!!!!!!"



• We asked our Metro Life Panel which celebrity they would want to spend their last 24 hours on earth with

Some answers were predictable − Pamela Anderson − and others took us by surprise (your mom? Really?)



Your last Date night











Who else?

- Chuck Norris If anyone's going to make it through the apocalypse, it's Chuck.
- Dr. Oz He'd know just what to do and say to make "everything right."
- Ellen DeGeneres I wanna go out laughing and hap-
- Jann Arden I'd love to sit and drink wine with her and hear her talk.
- Keanu Reeves He's boring enough that I would nod off first.
- Leonard Cohen He seems like an interesting man with an interesting mind.

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5 survival skills your mother didn't teach you

It's the end of days, you're alone and you're going to need a few skills to survive Here's what you need to know to cope with an apocalypse







ing a power outage:

- Turn off appliances to avoid a power surge when power is restored.
- Do not touch electrical wires, appliances or devices.
- Check for gas leaks and turn the valves off if you find one.
- Prepare an inventory of what has been lost or damaged. THE CANADIAN PRESS



latest lifestyle new

How to sew a button

Tools: needle, thread, scissors

Put the thread into the eye of the needle. (Tip: Lick the end of the thread to give it some strength.) Pull the thread through the needle until there is an equal length of thread on both sides. Tie the ends together in a big knot. Now position the button on the fabric. Push the needle up through the fabric, behind the button, and up through the button hole. Pull the thread all the way through. Push the needle through a different hole in the button and pull the thread through. Repeat several times until the button is secure. On the backside of the fabric, run the needle through your awkward stitching several times to tie off the thread.

How to cut down a tree

Tools: chainsaw, rope, ladder

Use the ladder to tie a rope to the top of the tree, or as high as you can get it. Cut a notch (with the chainsaw, duh) that goes more than halfway through the tree, on the side of the tree you want it to fall on. Then cut downward on the other side, toward the notch you just created. When you get close to the notch, it should start to fall. If it doesn't, pull the rope. Carefully. If it does start to fall, get out of the way, as the butt of the tree can kick back and smack vou.

How to de-bone a fish

Tools: sharp knife, tweezers

Place clean fish on its side. Cut the fish just behind the gill plate until the blade hits the fish's backbone. Make sure your knife is flat and parallel to the cutting surface. Slice down the length of the backbone right to the tail. Repeat on the other side. Remove the backbone. Then slice between the rib bones into the meat of the fish and pull the bones out. Use tweezers to clasp onto the remaining bones and pull them out. Note: Do not later use these tweezers for your eyebrows.



Tools: foil, clear water, knife

Shape a piece of foil into a bowl. Fill it with about 5 cm of water. Wait for it to freeze. Make a nest of tinder for later. Using a pocket knife, shape the ice into a lens shape. (Remember, lenses are thicker in the middle and narrower around the edges.) Polish your lens with your bare hands (the heat will help the lens become nice and smooth). Angle the lens toward the sun and focus the light on the tinder nest. Be patient.... Fire!



How to be alone

Chances are, you're by yourself. How do you not go crazy until you find other people? Some suggestions: Write a story or some poetry. Learn something new, like guitar. There must be plenty of guitars and Guitar for Dummies books around. Read. There will be other books near the guitar book. Listen to music. assuming there's electricity. Sing, dance, paint, do puzzles. Keeping your mind occupied is key.

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You, 12 months from now

In one year's time, we'll have become more 'sharing and caring,' the world's top trend-spotters tell Metro

• We'll share songs, docs and files without owning them, and we'll care more about where our food comes from



Computing on the cloud, holidaying on a farm and interacting with talking billboards are among the top things we'll be doing in 2012, the world's leading trends potters tell Metro.

"The new year will be a portrait of contrasts — great new techno-break-throughs and a rush toward embracing anything local, including crafts and foods," says Marian Salzman, president of Euro RSCG Worldwide PR.

Surfin' in the 'cloud'

Cloud computing will be the most talked-about trend over the next year.

"Twelve months from now, most people under 40 will be logging into a virtual file cabinet to pick up your work assignment or your shopping list," Salzman tells Metro.

"There are obvious privacy issues that come with that," says Ann Mack, director of trend-spotting at global advertising agency JWT. "But overall, people are moving toward 'access over ownership.' Already you can access any song you like online without actually owning it."

Shop ethical: There's an app for that

Ethical shopping is set to rise, according to Salzman, with more and more people concerned about how

Other trends

Eco-cycology. We're seeking a more sustainable lifestyle — and we want the same from the brands we buy. Already Nike and Dell have programs where they take back old items from customers and recycle the material to use in new products.

Depression-era chic. Perhaps as a nod to our economic climate, designers, from Gucci to Roberto Cavalli, showed swingy flapper dresses, complete with drop waists, deco touches and Zelda Fitzgerald as a muse.

Trading in. With wage freezes we all need some ways to get a bit of extra cash. 'Recommerce' is the new buying where tech-savvy consumers are reselling or trading in old buys. Across the world, companies are already offering trade-in programs.

SOURCES: MARIAN SALZMAN, TRENDWATCHING.COM

their food products are sourced — and they're investigating with their smartphones.

One smartphone app — GoodGuide — allows shop-

pers to scan a product with their phone camera and find out how ethically responsible the food company behind the product is.

"Into the new year, our smartphone will increasingly become our companion to what kind of cheese we'll buy; we can find out if it was made in that trustworthy farm," Salzman says.

The futurologist believes an overall citizen-led drive to target corporate responsibility is behind this. "On a macro level, it's due to the general malaise in society that's still around today. Wanting a sense of control in this chaos is a personal trigger," Salzman adds.

But we won't just be acting ethical in the supermarket aisles. Salzman predicts a rise in ecotourism and spending vacation time volunteering at farms over the next year.

"Don't be surprised if families take their urban/suburban gardens one step further by going on 'farmcations,'" she says. "Think staying at sustainable farms where families can learn to grow their own foods in a nod to 2012 survivalist fervor and to the need to know what they're eating and to pay less for healthy food."

Say hi to a billboard

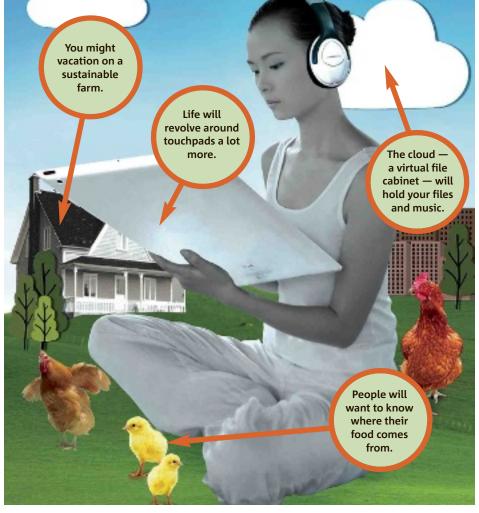
Our lives will revolve even more than they already do around touchpad devices, whether it's ordering in a restaurant or shopping in a department store.

Barney's department store in New York already boasts restaurant tables fitted with touchscreens; diners can digitally order their meal, then browse the store's catalogue. And we'll be "talking" to billboards, too: "Siri and other voice recognition devices are a big hitter now, but as people will get used to this phenomenon, we could be interacting with a talking billboard," Mack told Metro.

"Already in Japan, they

have billboards that can detect with 90 per cent accuracy whether the passer-by is male or female, and then serve up an ad accordingly.

"Some people will say this is all straight out of [futuristic sci-fi movie] Minority Report, but in reality this is going to happen."









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Get creative with canned food

● Whether you like buying in bulk or you're preparing for a disaster, you likely have a stash of canned goods gathering dust in your pantry ● Emily Richards explains how to turn those staples into easy, tasty meals



DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS

FOOD@METRONEWS.CA



You can enjoy a snack of tuna salad and crackers, or you can create a tasty

dinner for two. With almost everything you need in the kit, you can make this meal when you're in a hurry.

Preparation:

Scrape tuna out of containers into bowl. Finely crush crackers and add

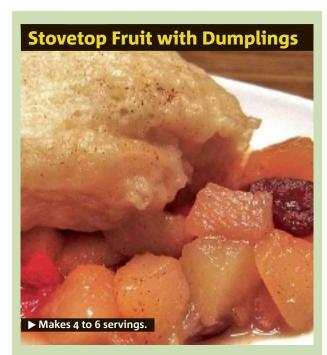
Ingredients:

- 2 pkgs (90 g each) snacksize tuna and crackers kit
- ½ tsp (2 mL) each chili powder and dried oregano leaves
- ½ tsp (1 mL) ground cumin
- 1 tsp (5 mL) canola oil

to tuna. Stir in chili powder, oregano and cumin; shape into 2 patties.

In nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium high heat and brown tuna burgers for about 2 minutes turning once or until golden brown.

EMILY RICHARDS



♦ Warm up with this hearty potato corn chowder soup — made in minutes

You can put together a simple soup, like this potato corn chowder, in minutes.

Preparation:

In soup pot, using potato masher, mash potatoes with garlic, parsley, thyme and cayenne until fairly smooth. Add creamed corn, milk, broth and water and bring to a gentle boil. Simmer for about 15 minutes to let flavours come together.

EMILY RICHARDS IS A
PROFESSIONAL HOME
ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK
AUTHOR & TV CELEBRITY

Ingredients:

- 1 can (540 mL/19 oz) cooked diced potatoes, drained well
- 1 large clove garlic, minced
- 2 tsp (10 mL) dried parsley leaves
- 1 tsp (5 mL) dried thyme
- ½ tsp (1 mL) cayenne
 1 can (398 mL/14 oz)
 creamed corn
- 1 can (370 mL) 2% evaporated milk
- 1 can (284 mL/10 oz) vegetable broth
- 1 1/4 cups (300 mL) water

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Ingredients:

- 1 can (796 mL/28 oz) mixed fruit with cherries in light syrup
- ½ cup (60 mL) each dried cranberries and chopped dried apricots
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) rum
- ½ tsp (2 mL) ground cinnamon
- 1 ½ cups (300 mL) biscuit mix
- ²/₃ cup (150 mL) evaporated milk
- 1 tsp (5 mL) vanilla extract

You can make a simple dessert on a stovetop or even over a fire! This quick and tasty dessert will make any day seem brighter.

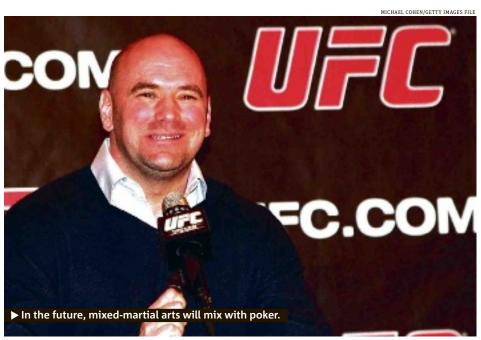
Preparation:

- Pour fruit into small shallow saucepan and stir in cranberries, apricots, rum and cinnamon. Bring to a gentle simmer over medium heat.
- n a bowl, stir biscuit mix with milk and vanilla until combined. Dollop 6 spoonfuls over top of fruit mixture; cover and cook for about 10 minutes or until biscuit is cooked through and no longer wet.
 - EMILY RICHARDS



A brave new sporting world

• If we're not all reduced to rubble, we could see sports get a whole lot wackier beyond 2012



Ask anyone from a previous generation and they'll surely enlighten you as to how "sports ain't what they used to be." Until the end of 2012 those were just the crowings of the bewildered and beleaguered. Fans of the future, know they will have a valid claim...

2037: With ratings on the decline due to the influx of violent and gambling realiviolent and gambling reality shows ("Monkey Knife Fight"; "Trillion Dollar Deficit Coin-Flip"; "Casino vs. Robosaurus"; "Who Has The Toughest Automatic Dishwasher...Literally?"), the now-completely hairless UFC president Dana White melds Mixed Martial Arts with Texas Hold 'Em: As Real A Semi-Bluff As It Gets!

2049: After locking out its players for a combined 15th time this century, many NBA and NFL players head back to college to finish their degrees (and to take advantage of the fact the NCAA is now paying its "amateur" athletes upwards of \$2 million a semester, along all-you-can-sit tattoos). The pros arrive to find the March Madness tournament has ballooned to 16388 schools (14 rounds plus two play-in games) and begins the previous June. Football still rebuffs a playoff system, making all but one of the 78 bowls utterly inane. (Though the Visa Halftime Show sponsored by Doritos at the Meineke Car Care Bowl presented by



Fannie Mae would have been great if it wasn't for all the commercials.) 2062: Pogs!

2087: Proving Darwin's theory correct, decades of relentless texting has led to the thumb being the strongest appendage on most humans. What started with Pro Thumb Wresting ("It's totally fake!") evolves into the Thumb Olympics. Events include synchronized scrolling and the modern phalangeathalon. Most contestants aren't very polished.

▶ Don Cherry's love for garish suits will live on

2112: In an ongoing effort to reduce concussions, the NHL, which at last count had expanded to 78 teams, finally arrives at a "solution" to head shots by boiling the game down to a 99-shot per team shootout (with the provisos that no player can skate beyond the hashmarks for fear of running into the goalie and any shot above the waist results in a lifetime ban.) Coaches give themselves concussions from shaking their heads. Don Cherry's ghost, drawn back from the abyss every Saturday night with the promise of a new garish suit, calls Gary Bettman IV a joke. Of course, fighting is still allowed ... how else to keep up with Ultimate Pok-

■ EDWARD FRASER/FOR METRO







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Looking at what's next

Metro guest columnist Greg Downs looks at the future of athletic culture

Equality dressing rooms:

If the world of sports is the last mainstream closet, then the next 50 years will open doors.

There is a short history of openly gay athletes, mainly because of the stigma athletes who come out

However the mentality is set to change in locker rooms and front offices around North America.

The NFL, largely considered to be the toughest arena to be a gay athlete, wrote legislation into the new collective bargaining agreement, barring any discrimination based on sexual orientation.

It' a sign of things to come when high-profile, truculent personalities such as Brian Burke voice their concerns and walk in the Gay Pride Parade.

New national sport: Canada's national sport will be forced to take a back seat as concussions, and changing population push soccer to the forefront of the Canadian sporting landscape.

According to Stats Canada by 2031 as much as 28 per cent of the population will be of foreign birth, bringing the world's most popular game with them.

Toronto FC and the Vancouver Whitecaps are al-

readv

among



leaders in attendance and Canada's third franchise, the Montreal Impact, will join this summer.

As concussion information develops, and head injuries become more prevalent in contact sports, soccer will become the safer alternative.

International Hockey League: With many NBA, and NHL markets struggling to keep up with the growing player salary demands, the lure of foreign markets will spawn international leagues.

The money has already been proven to exist.

In 2010 SKA Saint Petersburg offered Ilva Kovalchuk the same \$100 million deal as the one he

signed with the New Jersey Devils, a sum many NHL clubs

afford.

player Deron NBA Williams, like many pro basketball players, signed a big deal overseas (one year, \$ 5 million) during the recent lockout.

His number was even retired after just 15 games.

Pay to play: In the next half century college and university athletes will lose their amateur status.

While organizations like the NCAA have fought and fined to keep players from making money, the pressure on big schools to recruit will force the league to adapt.

There's just too much money on the line. Both BCS championship teams, LSU and Alabama will receive \$18 million for playing the biggest college

the willingness to throw large sums of cash at high school players and it will impossible for the NCAA to stop it.

Front court — Front office: Elite athletes will elevate from highly paid stars, to player/owners as teams attempt to lure them to their city.

Owners routinely hand over power of their teams to stars, and based on current contracts, ownership is next. Albert Pujols was handed a \$252 million contract this month by the L.A. Angels. It's a deal worth more than the amount owner Art Moreno paid for the team (\$181 million in 2003). Alexander Ovechkin's 13 year \$124 million deal is only \$10 million shy of Forbes estimated worth of the



Five sports signs of the apocalypse



Professional athletes realize just how overpaid they are and decide en masse to take a 50 per cent pay cut, which in turn sees ticket prices cut in half allowing middle class families to again cheer on their home teams. As well, fans are in jerseys, instead of three-piece suits, at arenas throughout leagues.

Yonge Street is lined for miles with cheering fans as Toronto's beloved Maple Leafs do the unthinkable and win the Stanley Cup. Sure, the team needed the winning goal in Game 7 of the final to take a favourable ricochet off the glass on an overtime dump in, but Leaf fans don't care. They are happy to be the loveable losers no more.

overtakes Soccer hockey to become

CBC cashes in on the popularity by dumping Hockey Night in Canada in favour of Soccer Night in Canada, with Coaches Corner featuring Ron McLean and Don Cherry in T-shirts and shorts no less.

The CFL, in an attempt to boost TV ratings and ticket sales, decides to have a one-round MMA fight between opposing players to decide who gets first possession. This has fans in their seats well before kickoff, and everyone hoping for overtime so another MMA fight can happen.

The golf world is stunned when Tiger Woods, who hasn't won a sanctioned PGA tour event in years, quits and joins the LPGA. The LPGA is thrilled to have Woods because now someone might actually watch. And as for Woods, not only does he now have to wear a skirt when he plays, he thinks he can finally overtake Jack Nicklaus' major victory record.



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Frontline NHLers for the future

If you could take a starting lineup from the NHL today into the new world, who would you take? • Metro London managing editor Jim Reyno has narrowed down his starting six and likes his chances with his squad



My starting six NHLers to take into the new world are based on a number of factors: Statistics, age, leadership, and what I call "winningness" — a combination of toughness, heart and ability to hoist Lord Stanley's cup.

Centre — In the absence of a healthy Sidney Crosby, I like Ryan Nugent-Hopkins. Not much of a track a record in the NHL, but he's off to a great start in Edmonton and he carries himself like a veteran. Pretty impressive 18-year-old guy, on and off the ice.



Left wing — Milan Lucic. I don't care if he's dead last in the league in scoring and minus a million in the regular season — when it's crunch time, he crunches. Lucic is the quintessential power-forward. Fearless and intimidating at six-footfour and 220 pounds, this 23-year-old would create space up front for Nugent-Hopkins and this next guy.

Right wing — Claude Giroux. This 23-year-old has improved every season in the NHL. He's quick, a heady passer, and still has a sniper's eye for the net. And although he hasn't won a cup yet, he's clutch: Giroux is among the league

leaders in game-winning goals - not to mention points. Hopefully, we'll see Sid and Claude concussion free soon — lighting it up for Canada on the same line at the next Olympics.

Defence — Zdeno Chara. Massive, in every sense of the word. Everyone knows about his booming slapshot

and mean streak, but at sixfoot-nine and 255 pounds, he covers half of the defensive zone just by standing there. Yes he's 34, but if Tony Bennett can have a No. 1 album at age 85, I can have Chara on my blue-line for a few years in the new world.

Defence — Erik Karls-

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son. With Big Z doing the heavy-lifting defensively, the slick-passing, smoothskating Karlsson would be free to roam. My transition game wouldn't stall with this guy: Karlsson moves the puck quickly and effectively. This 21-year-old Swede will be quarterbacking the Senators power play for years to come.

Goal — Tough one. Among the goaltending leaders, I either see guys approaching the end of their careers or guys who haven't proven it over the long haul. Maybe Marc-Andre Fleury? Hitting his prime at age 27, already won a cup ... yeah, I'll go with Flower.

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Mayan Calendar Puzzle

Many are dreading 2012, as it supposedly means dark days are ahead as foretold by the Mayan calendar. Wrong! The truth is, it's just the end of a cycle of the Mayan calendar. To the Mayans, that was a time to celebrate. So, 2012 is more like a brand new day rather than an end of days. 2012 is going to be iust fine.

a LARRY HUMBER

1 The Mayan Calendar is known as the Maya Round (a word meaning holy) 4 The Maya had day

names, nearly three times as many as we have

9 McHattie of Immortals and the disaster film 2012

10 What the Maya

called day 19; it means rain storm (it's also a kind of canoe if you change the middle letter)

11 If things go as some say in 2012, we'll be needing more than salts to cure our ills 12 Predominantly Muslim nation in West Africa

13 A New Testament book

15 Scarlett O'Hara's home

18 Shake violently 21 Basketball's "Shaq" 23 Information fed into a computer 24 Adopts: 2 wds.

25 John ___ played writer Jackson Curtis in 2012

& Demons was a 26 Dan Brown book and later a film starring Tom Hanks

Down

of Noah (they're Curtis's kids) 2 Maia Chiburdanidze

was women's world champ

3 Digs up or brings to light

5 Rouse from sleep 6 One who's into astrology, say: 2 wds.

7 Country folk 8 Terminates

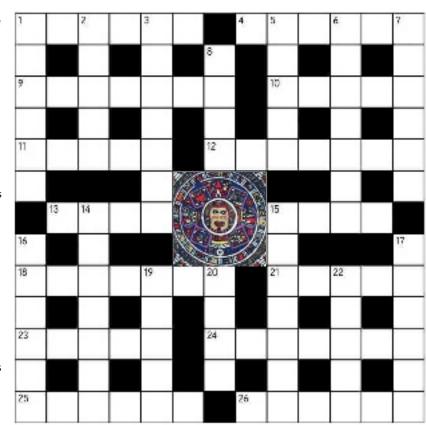
14 The Mayan calendar is used to this day in this part of Mexico (it's an anagram of APHASIC) 15 The Mayan calendar is known to scholars as

the ____ (the answer is close in spelling to The Lord of the Rings author)

16 Crazy person 17 Symbolic figures as found in the Mayan calendar

19 The calendar was an adaptation of the Mayan

20 Erodes, awav 1 In the film 2012, Lilly is 22 Come as a result



Solution

20. EATS and 22. ENSUE 17. GLYPHS, 19. AZTEC, TZOLKIN, 16. MANIAC, ENDS, 14. CHIAPAS, 15. NEW AGER, 7. YOKELS, 8. HOWES' 2' WAKEN' 6' 1. SISTER, 2. CHESS, 3. EX-DOWN CUSACK and 26. ANGELS INPUT, 24. TAKES UP, 25. TATE, 21. O'NEAL, 23. ACTS, 15. TARA, 18. AGI-EPSOM, 12. SENEGAL, 13. STEPHEN, 10. KAWAK, 11. 1. SACRED, 4. TWENTY, 9. **ACROSS**

NOTE: The solutions for the Dec. 24th crossword and Sudoku will ap-

pear in the Jan. 3 issue of Metro. If you can't wait until then, go to metronews.ca for the answers.

Numerology



Numerology offers a personality and lifestyle profile that can help unlock the mysteries of the

past, present and future. Numbers help predict outcomes — so you can enhance relationships, career and overall living!

Number One

Celebrate: You will inspire people willing to hear your point of view. Not only will they be impressed with your vision, but they will tell others about you. Watch out for: Not just one, but many people will confront you with matters of the heart. If you are not interested, then be honest.

Number Two

Celebrate: Aggressive folks

who have rattled your chain in the past will ask you for forgiveness. Your career will pick up tenfold, so be ready to take on new responsibilities and exciting experiences.

Watch out for: Try not to push things. If it does not fit, do not force it. Relax and let things go.

Number Three

Celebrate: You have done things for people that others would not think of doing. This year coworkers, friends and family will show their gratitude for your kindness.

Watch out for: Your loyalty will be questioned two times in 2012; however, as long as you remain calm and cool, your maturity will shine through.

Number Four

Celebrate: Folks will come to you throughout the year. They will use you as a distraction from their woes Do not shiin them Make money from it, or least earn good karma. Watch out for: All will be merry for the first part of the year, but in mid-2012 you need to be watchful of people who say they love you, but hurt you most.

Number Five

Celebrate: Your creative side will bubble over in 2012. Business, career. love and spiritual ideas you have been putting off will now ignite and you will soar to new heights. Watch out for: People with good intentions will try to persuade you not to take a chance. Hear their advice, but ultimately listen to vour heart and go with your intuition.

How it works

- It starts with your birth date — month, day, year.
- Break down your numbers to a single digit.
- For example, say you were born on Dec. 20, 1971. December is the 12th month, so break the month down: 1+2 = 3

Number Six

Celebrate: In 2012 smiling and laughing will have more of an affect on your life than you could ever imagine. Folks may test you many times and in many ways, but you will pass them all.

Watch out for: Taking things personally will only cause stress. When others try to dish discomfort, deflect it by saying to yourself: "I am peaceful, and peace is with me."

- ▶ The 20th day break it down: 2+0 = 2
- The year 1971 break it down: 1+9+7+1 = 18. Break it down again to a single diait: 1+8 = 9
- Now add up all three final numbers: 3+2+9 = 14
- Break 14 down and your final answer is 1+4 = 5
- You are a number 5

Number Seven

Celebrate: Say what is on your mind, and do not hesitate to do what you feel. As long as it does not hurt anybody, do as you like and live how you

Watch out for: Acquaintances may judge you incorrectly. But do not worry, because in the first quarter of 2012 they will learn to appreciate your character and cherish your friendship.

Number Eight

Celebrate: Somebody between the ages of 21 and 35 will praise your name, and if they do this at work, your income will increase sooner rather than later.

Watch out for: Do not answer any questions that will turn into deeper questions. Getting into the nitty gritty of things is not necessary.

Number Nine

Celebrate: If somebody owes you money, you can look forward to getting some of it back, and just when you need it most. Watch out for: Focus on your health, especially if you do not have the best of health right now. A SYNDICATED ASTROLOGIST, CERISE FAIRFAX IS PUBLISHED IN VARIOUS NEWSPAPERS AND ONLINE COMMUNITIES. SHE IS ALSO A LIFE COACH COUNSELOR. CHECK HER OUT AT CERISEFAIRFAX.COM





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